

ROXBURGH COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

YEAR - 1956

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STAFF

At 31st December, 1956

Jointly with Selkirk County Council and Small Burgh Authorities

Medical Officer of Health	A. F. McCoubrey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers	L. F. Howitt, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. JOAN Campsie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Jointly with Selkirk County Council

County Sanitary Inspector	A. I. Fraser.
District Sanitary Inspectors	A. McKinnon. J. G. Watson.
Senior Dental Officer	Mrs C. E. Grieve, L.D.S.
Assistant Dental Officers	Post Vacant. Dr H. N. MacLachlan, L.D.S.
County Nursing Superintendent	Miss D. G. Duncan.
Milk Officer	Miss D. Robertson.

Roxburgh County Council

Housing Officer	J. Wanless.
Meat Detention Officer	W. Beveridge.

Meat Inspectors (Part-time)

Hawick	Mr C. S. Scott, M.R.C.V.S.
Kelso	Messrs McTurk & Keith, M.R.C.V.S.

Small Burgh Authorities

Hawick	G. Bee, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.
Kelso	W. C. Neil, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.
Jedburgh	M. Ring, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.
Melrose	R. Grant, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Clerical

Mrs E. Syme, Chief Clerk.
Miss A. M. R. Grieve, Senior Clerkess-Typist.
Miss N. W. Edgar, Clerkess-Typist.
Mrs E. Wanless, Clerkess-Typist.
Miss E. S. Lothian, Clerkess-Typist.
Miss E. C. L. Robson, Junior Clerkess-Typist.
Miss F. A. Wilson, Junior Clerkess-Typist.

Changes in Staff

Mr C. M. Urquhart, L.D.S., Assistant Dental Officer	Resigned 9/7/56
Mrs C. M. Paxton, Clerkess-Typist	Resigned 5/2/56

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND AND
THE CONVENER AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS
OF THE COUNTY OF ROXBURGH

OUR GRACES, MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

Statistics

The vital statistics show generally a slight decline from last year's excellent figures. An important exception is the death rate from tuberculosis, which fell from 0.13 per 1,000 of the population to 0.07 per 1,000 of the population. This is the equivalent of 0.46% of all deaths occurring in the County. The two chief causes of death were disease of the circulatory system and cancer. The former accounted for 61.4% and the latter (90 deaths) for 13.7%. Deaths from cancer included 13 deaths from lung cancer. The birth rate declined from 15.6 per 1,000 of the population to 14.9 per 1,000, the death rate rose from 13.9 per 1,000 of the population to 14.4 per 1,000, the infantile mortality rate rose from 18 per 1,000 live births to 24 per 1,000, and the neo-natal mortality from 11 per 1,000 live births to 18 per 1,000. Such rises may seem large, but in a community of our size a small rise or fall makes a marked difference in percentages. For example, the actual increase in deaths of children under one year was 3; this had the effect of raising the rate per 1,000 live births from 18 to 24.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Further improvements were made to the clinic at Jedburgh and a complete new dental unit was installed in Melrose Clinic. Shortage of Dental Staff still prevented us from undertaking the care of the teeth of the pre-school child and expectant mother. A Mobile Dental Unit came into service during the year.

The distribution of welfare foods continued smoothly and I would take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to all distributors in the County who carry out this service. With the exception of cod liver oil, the uptake of all welfare foods rose during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The level of protection against diphtheria remained satisfactory; this is borne out by the fact that 89% of all children entering school for the first time during the year had been immunised. For the sixth year in succession no case of diphtheria was notified in the County. The figures for vaccination against smallpox (44%) are not so satisfactory but, as I have stated previously, I am sure that the number of children protected is greater than the number notified.

Vaccination against anterior poliomyelitis began during the year, but the rate of progress of vaccination was governed by deliveries of vaccine and the time available for this procedure with present staff. It must be remembered that this vaccination procedure and B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis have been added to the list of duties of the Department. The administration and carrying out of both these vaccination procedures are very time-consuming and have to be added to present commitments. The time-consuming nature in a rural area is particularly well illustrated as a result of the method chosen for poliomyelitis vaccination. Initially, children born in certain months had to be vaccinated. In an urban area such children could conveniently be collected in a central clinic; in a sparsely populated rural area, with poor or non-existent public transport services, vaccination often meant a car journey of many miles to see one child.

During the year 692 children were immunised against diphtheria by general practitioners and 543 by Local Authority Medical Officers and District Nurses.

492 children were vaccinated against smallpox, all vaccinations being carried out by general practitioners. All poliomyelitis vaccinations were carried out by Local Authority Medical Officers.

Care and After-Care

Vaccination with B.C.G. vaccine of all school children aged 13 years and over continued during the year. The surveillance of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and contacts continued, and close liaison was maintained with the Area Chest Physician concerning all new cases and contacts.

A Mass Radiography Unit visited the County on several dates in November and December. During these visits 6,590 people attended for X-ray and subsequently 14 people were recommended to be referred to the Area Chest Physician.

There are 88 known cases of epilepsy in the County, of whom 25 have a defect or defects in addition to their epilepsy.

Twenty-five cases of cerebral palsy are known and of these 12 have a defect or defects in addition to their cerebral palsy.

Efforts continued during the year to obtain accurate numbers of cases of mental ill-health in the County. Such efforts have been especially directed to discovering pre-school children suffering from such illness. As I have mentioned previously I have no doubt of the very urgent need for many more hospital beds for cases of mental deficiency.

Old people's welfare committees are now functioning in all small burghs in the County and, with the introduction of a chiropody service at Melrose during the year, all Burghs are now also provided with such a service.

Control of Infectious Disease

The incidence of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, called for no comment. We were fortunate that no case of poliomyelitis occurred in the County. Notifications of confirmed cases of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis were 13 and 10 respectively. These numbers show an increase of 2 and 4 respectively on last year's figures.

I would again record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Welfare Committee and to the other members of the County Council for their interest and support in the work of the Health Department. I am also very grateful for the ready help afforded me by the Group Medical Superintendent and other officials of the Borders Hospitals Board of Management, and the general practitioners in the County. My sincere thanks are also due to my fellow officials and the staff of my Department for their willing help at all times.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. F. McCoubrey,

Medical Officer of Health.

COUNTY OF ROXBURGH

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

(estimated to middle of 1956):

Landward	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,152
Burghs—									
Hawick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,789	
Jedburgh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,123	
Kelso	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,228	
Melrose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,134	
									27,274
									45,426

Births

The births corrected for transfers were:

	Total	Male	Female	Illegitimate
Landward	263	117	146	18
Burghs—				
Hawick	240	117	123	9
Jedburgh	74	39	35	3
Kelso	75	33	42	2
Melrose	26	14	12	2
	678	320	358	34

The birth-rate of 14·9 is 0·7 lower than the figure recorded in 1955.

Illegitimate births amounted to 5·0 per cent. of the total.

The number of Still-births was 14, giving a rate of 20 per 1,000 total births (including Still-births).

Marriages

Two hundred and ninety-eight marriages were registered during the year, giving a marriage rate of 6·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Deaths

The number of deaths corrected for transfers was 655, of which 305 were of men and 350 of women. The death rate, adjusted for age and sex distribution, was 11·6. The rate for Scotland was 12·0.

The numbers, causes and age-groups of death are shown in the tables on pages 8 and 9.

Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of children aged less than one year was 16 and of this number 12 were aged less than four weeks. The infant mortality rate was 24 per 1,000 live births.

1956—Causes of Death

	All Ages Both Sexes	M	F	Under 4 wks.	4 wks.—	1—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	85 and over
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis and its sequelae	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery, all forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infections and parasitic diseases	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasms	89	43	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	17	12	35	18	3
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes mellitus	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anaemias	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—
Other general diseases	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	3	3	—
Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system	114	42	72	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	12	37	44	13
Nonmeningococcal meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of nervous system	14	4	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	5	1	1
Rheumatic Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	228	114	114	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	15	22	55	90	39
Other diseases of heart	9	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	6	1	1
Hypertension with heart disease	14	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5	6	—
Hypertension without heart disease	14	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	11	2
Other circulatory disease	21	6	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	—
Influenza	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (except of newborn)	17	7	10	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
Carry forward	550	247	303	—	2	—	—	—	1	8	13	46	66	163	190	61

1956—Causes of Death	All Ages Both Sexes	M	F	Under 4 wks.	4 wks.—	1—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	85 and over
Brought forward	550	247	303	—	2	—	—	—	1	8	13	46	66	163	190	61
Bronchitis	18	15	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	4	4	3
Other respiratory diseases	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	8	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	1
Appendicitis	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Gastritis and duodenitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (except of newborn)	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of liver	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—
Nephritis of prostate	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other diseases of genito urinary system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal sepsis including post abortive sepsis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other puerperal causes	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Diseases of skin and organs of locomotion	7	2	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	3	2	—
Congenital malformations	5	1	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth injuries, post natal asphyxia and atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia of newborn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea of newborn	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other infections of the newborn	4	2	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	7	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Senility	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Causes ill-defined and unknown	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Suicide	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other road transport accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	6	—
Other violence	12	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	655	305	350	12	4	3	—	—	1	12	16	51	84	179	223	70

The numbers, causes and age-groups of infantile deaths are contained in following table:

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	M	F	Death Rate per 1,000 Births	Age Groups	
					Under 4 weeks	4 weeks to 1 year
Pneumonia (except of newborn)	2	—	2	2.95	—	2
Bronchitis	1	1	—	1.47	—	1
Congenital malformations	3	1	2	4.42	2	1
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	5	1	4	7.37	5	—
Other infections of the newborn	1	1	—	1.47	1	—
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	4	2	2	5.90	4	—
Totals	16	6	10		12	4
Death Rate per 1,000 Births .....	....	....	....	24	17.67	5.90

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children

(1) Ante-natal and post-natal service:

No ante-natal or post-natal clinics are provided by the Local Authorities.

(2) Child Welfare Clinics:

Clinics are in operation at Hawick (weekly), Kelso, Jedburgh and Melrose (fortnightly), and Newtown and St Boswells (monthly). Attendances during the year are shown in the following table:

(1)	No. of clinics provided at end of year (2)	No. of children attending the clinics during year and who on the date of their first attendance this year were:—		Total No. of attendances made during year by children who at time of attendance were:—	
		Under 1 year of age (3)	Over 1 year of age (4)	Under 1 year of age (5)	Over year of age (6)
Local Health Authority Clinics	6	319	126	3695	773
Clinics provided by Vol- untary Organisations....	—	—	—	—	—

3) Dental Care:

(1)	No. inspected by Dental Officers during the year (2)	No. found to require treatment during the year (3)	No. accepting treatment during the year (4)	No. actually treated by Dental Officers during the year (5)
Expectant mothers	—	—	—	—
Pregnant mothers....	—	—	—	—
School children	88	88	88	88

4) Nurseries provided by Manufacturers:

The following table shows statistics relating to Nurseries privately provided in the Burgh of Hawick, viz.:

(1)	State whether approved for training (2)	No. of approved places		No. of children on register at end of year		Average daily attendances during year		Waiting Lists at end of year	
		0-2 (3)	2-5 (4)	0-2 (5)	2-5 (6)	0-2 (7)	2-5 (8)	0-2 (9)	2-5 (10)
Hawick Hosiery Manufacturers' Association, St. Andrew's Church Hall, Union St., Hawick	No	—	50	—	45	—	34	—	—
James Scott & Co., Ltd., 11 Buccleuch Street, Hawick	No	—	16	—	14	—	12	—	—
Robert Noble & Co., Ltd., Glebe Mills, Hawick ...	No	4	12	7	19	7	18	—	—
James Arncliffe Ltd., Bridge House, Hawick	No	—	6	—	1	—	3	—	—

Midwifery

- (1) Total number of births (including Still-births) occurring in the area during the year—before correction for mother's residence ... 531
- (2) Total number of births in (1) occurring in institutions and private maternity homes ... 421
- (3) Total number of births in (1) occurring at home ... 110
- (4) Number of births in (3) classified to show nature of attendance at birth:

(1)	Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases				Total
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	Doctor and mid- wife engaged	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	Without doctor or midwife	All other cases	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis)	74	28	—	—	—	—	—	10
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Boards of Man- agement under arrange- ments made by the Author- ity with the Regional Hos- pital Board	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Private practising midwives	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—
(e) Other cases not classified above	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Totals	74	28	—	8	—	—	—	1

(5) Medical Aid:

Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14(2) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951, by a Midwife:

	For domiciliary cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	Total
	For institutional cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	N

(6) Administration of Analgesics:

- (a) Number of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland ...
- (i) Number in (a) employed on local health authority work ... 17
- (ii) Number in (a) not employed on local health work ... —
- (b) Number of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year ...

- (c) Number of sets of apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use in the area at 31st December, 1956 ... 1
- (i) Number in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives employed on local health authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases) ... 1
- (ii) Number in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local health authority work ... —
- (d) Number of sets on order at 31st December, 1956 ... —
- (e) Number of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):
- (i) When doctor was not present at delivery ... —
- (ii) When doctor was present at delivery ... —
- (f) Number of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):
- (i) When doctor was not present at delivery ... —
- (ii) When doctor was present at delivery ... —
- 7) Number of cars in use by Midwives at 31st December, 1956 ... 15

Health Visiting

The Health Visiting is undertaken by the District Nursing Sisters carrying out combined duties in their respective areas. The following figures relate to health visiting during the year:

(1)	No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors (or by District Nurses in their capacity as Health Visitors) during the year to										
	Expectant Mothers *		Children under 1 yr.		Children between 1 and 5		Tuber- culosis cases		Other cases		Total visits paid
	No. Vis. (2)	Total Vis. (3)	No. Vis. (4)	Total Vis. (5)	No. Vis. (6)	Total Vis. (7)	No. Vis. (8)	Total Vis. (9)	No. Vis. (10)	Total Vis. (11)	
Health Visitors employed by the Author- ity	—	—	1216	4849	1902	4278	71	996	—	—	10,123
Health Visitors employed by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* These visits do not include visits paid by a midwife-health visitor who attended the confinement as a midwife or maternity nurse.

4. Home Nursing

This service has been efficiently maintained during the year by the District Nursing Sisters.

Number of cases attended by the district nursing sisters	...	2
Number of visits paid to these cases	... ..	41

5. Domestic Help

The scheme functions satisfactorily under the jurisdiction of the Chief Welfare Officer in conjunction with the Nursing Superintendent. The following figures relate to the working of the Scheme during the year:

(i) Number of Domestic Helps employed at end of year	...	...
(a) Whole-time	... ..	...
(b) Part-time	... ..	...
(c) Retaining fee basis	... ..	...
(ii) Number of cases for which Helps were provided during the year	...	...
(iii) Number of cases in (ii) provided on account of confinement:		
(a) At home	... ..	...
(b) In hospital	... ..	...
(iv) Number of cases in (ii) provided on account of chronic sick, including aged and infirm	... ..	...

6. Domiciliary Midwifery and Local Health Authority Nursing Services

Combined duties in Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting Services.

	Directly employed by Local Health Authority		Employed by Voluntary Organisations including District Nursing Assocs.		No. holding Health Visitor Certificate
	Whole-time	Part-time	Whole-time	Part-time	
Nurses and Midwives on combined duties in the Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting Services employed in the following categories:—					
Superintendent (or Chief) Nursing Officers	1	—	—	—	1
Nurses and Midwives employed on:— Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing Duties	17	—	—	—	2
Total	18	—	—	—	3

7. Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination is carried out by the Medical Practitioners. The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated during the year:

Year of birth of persons	Number of persons primarily vaccinated during period				Number of persons re-vaccinated during period				Complications at vaccinations
	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) re-action 5th-7th day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local re-action	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) re-action 5th-7th day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local re-action	
1956	299	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	—
1955	151	3	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	3	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
1951	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1948	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1947	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1945	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1941 or earlier	4	—	—	—	9	3	—	12	—
Totals	462	4	—	26	13	3	—	12	—

Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out by the Medical Practitioner and by my Assistants as well as by the district nursing sisters in rural areas. During the year 620 pre-school and 45 school children were immunised and 6 maintenance doses were given.

8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Tuberculosis

Including patients receiving Sanatorium treatment, there were at the end of the year 444 persons resident in the County known to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

Co-operation with the Area Tuberculosis Physician has been maintained with regard to the care and after-care of persons suffering from Tuberculosis and domiciliary nursing visits by the District Nursing Sisters have continued throughout the year.

A grant of two pints of milk daily was made to all patients residing at home who were certified by the Area Tuberculosis Physician as requiring it. At the end of the year 15 persons were receiving free milk.

The Housing Authorities in the area continue to give sympathetic consideration to applications made by, or on behalf of, those suffering from Tuberculosis.

9. Infectious Disease

Seventy notifications of infectious disease (excluding tuberculosis) were received during the year, of which 11 cases were removed to hospital, as follows:

	Notified	Removed to Hospital
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1
Dysentery	7	5
Erysipelas	4	—
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	1	—
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	13	—
Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	2	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1
Scarlet Fever	8	3
Whooping Cough	28	—
Food Poisoning	3	—
	70	11

10. Mental Health

Efforts have continued to increase our knowledge of the number of cases of mentally handicapped persons in the County. So far as is known, there are 11 mentally handicapped persons belonging to the County, of whom 50 are school and pre-school children. There are 9 mongol children in the latter groups.

Two Clinical Sessions were conducted by Dr Bailey, Consultant Psychiatrist, in which 26 children were examined.

Institutional accommodation for mentally handicapped persons continues to be completely inadequate. As a result, there are a number of children in the County living in their own homes, whose presence is bound to have an adverse effect on their mothers' health and that of their brothers and sisters.

Close liaison has been maintained with the Educational Psychologists in regard to problems affecting the mental well-being of school pupils.

Orthopaedic Treatment of Pre-School Children

200 pre-school children were examined by the visiting Consultant Surgeon at centres in the County. The figures are as follows:

Hawick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Jedburgh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Kelso	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Melrose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Morebattle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Newcastleton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Newtown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14

Hospital Treatment—Princess Margaret Rose Hospital, Fairmilehead, Edinburgh:

No. of cases in hospital on 1/1/56	...	...	...	...	...	6
No. of admissions to hospital	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of discharges from hospital	...	...	...	...	...	8
No. of cases in hospital on 31/12/56	...	...	...	...	...	2

Classification of Hospital Cases:

Adducted forefoot on the left side	...	...	...	...	...	1
Adduction deformity of both feet	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Arthrogryposis, marked scoliosis and equinus deformity of both feet	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital talipes equinus varus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cut flexor tendons of the left middle finger	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lengthening of the tendo-achilles and posterior capsulotomy on the right ankle	...	...	...	...	...	1
Right congenital talipes equino-varus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Severe club foot deformity	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis focus of the left os calcis	...	...	...	...	...	1

The number of patient days was 1921.

WELFARE

Account of Work Undertaken in the Community

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 21—Residential Accommodation

During the year the number of applications under this heading was disposed of as under:

Admissions to Voluntary Homes	...	...	...	...	...	19*
Admissions to Other Local Authority Homes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Admissions to Deanfield, Hawick	...	...	...	...	...	13
Admissions to Grove House, Kelso	...	...	...	...	...	7
To Hospitals (being properly medical cases)	...	...	...	...	...	6
To Temporary Accommodation (emergency)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Homeless families assisted with housing	...	...	...	...	...	4
Outwith the financial provisions of the Act	...	...	...	...	...	5
Withdrawn	...	...	...	...	...	2
Applications in hand	...	...	...	...	...	2

61

(* Includes 4 women admitted to "Tor" Nursing Home.)

The numbers of old people in eventide accommodation rose from 53 at the end of 1955 to 70 at the end of 1956. Five of the latter number are persons chargeable to other authorities. See Appendix for analysis of the aged for whom this County is responsible.

The tendency is for admissions to increase with the increasing upper age structure of our population, allied to the expanding facilities and the confidence gained by the public in the modern type of Home.

The various Homes in which elderly people of this County are accommodated may be summarised thus:

Deanfield, Hawick	18	Roxburgh County Council.
Grove House, Kelso	16	do.
St Margaret's, Hawick	11	Voluntary Home.
Weens House, Bonchester	11	do.
Queen's House, Kelso	4	do.
Netherby Home, Galashiels	1	do.
Castle View, Edinburgh	2	do. (Deaf and Dumb)
Poplar's (Grassmarket Mission), Aberlady	1	do.
Bridge of Weir Epileptic Colony	1	do.
Methil Haven, Fife	1	Fife County Council.
Glenlockhart, Edinburgh	2	Edinburgh Corporation.
Newton Loan Lodge, Midlothian	1	Midlothian County Council.
Eildon View, Galashiels	1	Selkirk County Council.
70		

Deanfield Home, Hawick, and Grove House, Kelso

Both these local authority Homes have reached their complement of Residents. Despite difficulties of staffing, the Homes are now well established and offer pleasant conditions and amenities to the elderly. The support of the public and local organisations has been encouraging. Television has been installed in both Homes through voluntary effort.

Voluntary Homes

The voluntary homes—Queen's House, Weens House and St Margaret's Hawick—continue to help very substantially towards meeting the demand for residential accommodation.

Convalescent Home Provision

This Authority has no homes of this description or any arrangements with Voluntary Homes.

Section 17—Reception Centres

There are now no Casual Houses in the Council's area. The only accommodation for the wayfarer in the County is the common lodging-house at 6 Baker Street, Hawick (males only). Earlston, Langholm, Duns and Peebles are the only centres left in the Border area for the overnight accommodation of vagrants which is now the responsibility of the National Assistance Board.

Of the vagrant class, Part III Accommodation was provided at Grove House Kelso, for four males, all elderly and in need of care and supervision. The problem of the wayfarer who is old, crippled or exhausted is still difficult and may arise at a period when no accommodation is available in this area.

Section 21(b)—Temporary Accommodation

During the flooding in August, 1956, one Jedburgh family had to be re-housed locally for a temporary period. Blankets, beds and other equipment were supplied from stock kept for emergency purposes.

Two families rendered homeless (evicted) were helped to secure other private accommodation. There were one or two instances where children were accommodated at Wilton House Children's Home, Hawick, while the parents found shelter elsewhere.

There were the usual enquirers seeking emergency accommodation or housing help for various reasons.

Section 29—Welfare Services for the Handicapped

Blind Persons

Under agency arrangements the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland Society teaching the Blind to read in their own Homes continues to attend efficiently the welfare of the Blind, providing instruction in Braille and Moon reading, handicrafts, visitation, social amenities, wireless, library facilities and the like through the Society's Welfare Officer. (Mr A. F. Doig retired at the end of the year and his place was taken by Miss Mooney.)

Number on Visitation Roll at 1/1/56	...	...	...	...	...	78
Number added to the Roll during year	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number taken from the Roll during year (transferred, 1; deceased, 16; de-certified, nil)	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number on Visitation Roll at 31/12/56	...	...	...	...	...	78
Number over 70 years of age on Roll	...	...	...	...	...	53
Number in sheltered employment (Royal Blind Workshops)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number employed under the Home Service Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number in outside institutions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ordinary visits during the year	...	...	...	...	...	601
Teaching visits during the year	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of Partially sighted on Roll (4 male; 2 female)	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of visits recorded	...	...	...	...	...	7

At present three men are holding their own in open employment.

One lady received a 4 weeks' course in Social Rehabilitation at Alwyn House, Fife, followed by an industrial course of 11 weeks' duration, to equip her for suitable employment. Unfortunately, the lady in question has not been successful so far in obtaining employment on her return home.

As will be seen from the foregoing table, there has been no change in the total number of registered blind persons. The Partially-Sighted Register has been started, but it is difficult to forecast whether or not this group will be substantial.

The age variance is from three years to 94 years. Some of the blind require weekly visits and others are visited quarterly.

With two-thirds of the total number of blind persons being over 70 years of age, little scope is allowed for teaching of handicrafts and methods of reading. No opportunity is lost, however, if a person has the slightest aptitude or inclination to learn from the Society's Officer. Few have no constructive interest or hobby. Activities vary from cutting wood to gardening and walking. Dominoes, chess and draughts are popular, while housewives knit and sew, in addition to household chores.

As blind persons are discovered throughout the County by the Authority's Welfare Officers (or the National Assistance Board's Officers), the cases are reported to the Society for investigation, and, if necessary, inclusion in the Blind Welfare Scheme.

Deaf and Dumb Persons

The Edinburgh Deaf and Dumb Benevolent Society continued, under agency arrangements with the Council, to supervise the welfare of the deaf and dumb persons. This amounts to visitation twice yearly, social meetings, monthly religious services (Hawick and Galashiels centres), an annual Border Re-Union with tea, games and dancing; the provision of hearing aids, instruction and advice generally. The Society has its own lady visitor.

The number of enrolled persons in the County is 25 (8 males, 17 females):

						Male	Female	Total
15-20 years	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
21-30 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
31-40 years	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
41-50 years	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
51-60 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
61-70 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
71-80 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
81-90 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
In regular employment	...	...	...	...	...	13	(Self-employed 5)	
Home duties	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Retired	...	...	...	...	...	11	(5 in Eventide Homes)	

There are two persons (1 male, 1 female) from this area accommodated in the Society's Eventide Home at Castle View, Edinburgh.

The number of partially deaf persons in the County is undetermined.

All cases coming to the notice of the Authority's Welfare Officers are reported to the Society for investigation and inclusion on the visiting list.

The Crippled, Home-Bound, and otherwise Disabled

A number of severely handicapped persons were dealt with during the year under review. Services varied from the purely advisory to procuring assistance from other local or central Departments (*e.g.*, National Assistance, housing, employment, and medical aids). Direct help was provided in a number of instances, *e.g.*, boots to a polio cripple, a garage site to a legless man (Ministry of Pensions provided garage) for his motorised carriage, a Knitmaster Sewing Machine on loan to a disabled young woman.

Notifications of severely disabled persons are being received in increasing numbers from the National Assistance Board, Ministry of Labour, doctors, nurses and from Old People's Welfare Committees.

The actual numbers of the substantially handicapped remain problematical, but it is certain that there is a core of disabled people who do require welfare services in different forms, particularly the younger age groups.

There is a respectable number of defectives, adults and children, constituting a separate problem, especially where instruction is required or residential accommodation or training at an occupational centre.

Unquestionably this is a scheme which requires adequate staffing and much personal investigation and follow-up to be really effective. It is hoped to establish a Committee, on a voluntary basis, to co-operate and assist in the furtherance of this work.

Welfare of the Aged

There is an Old People's Welfare Committee operating at Hawick, Jedburgh, Kelso and Melrose, with whom the Council's Welfare Officers are actively associated. All Committees operate one or more welfare schemes:

Hawick—Meals on Wheels Scheme delivers thrice weekly up to 65 meals per delivery day. Old people living alone are visited regularly by Committee member or visitors. Knitting wool continues to be issued to individuals, hospitals and residential homes. The Committee are anxious to establish a Darby and Joan Club, but the difficulty of finding suitable premises remains. Entertainment featured largely in Old People's Week, 1956, and there were Christmas distributions of tea and firewood. The Committee organised a fête at Deanfield Eventide Home, which realised £180 nett for a television fund. Thanks to the support of affiliated bodies, factory employees and the public, the Committee is self-supporting.

Jedburgh—Meals on Wheels, Home Visitation and Chiropody services continued, with much acceptance locally. A Church Service, a Concert and Visitation were the main features of Old People's Week. The Old Men's Club, started in 1955, is proving very successful.

Melrose—Home visitation continued throughout the year. A Chiropody Scheme was begun in which the Red Cross undertook to carry out foot treatment, working in conjunction with general practitioners. A Meals on Wheels Service is being considered. Entertainment was provided in Old People's Week.

Kelso—A Chiropody Scheme was launched in June, 1956, in the Clinic at Bowmont Street, Kelso. A qualified chiropodist is in attendance each Thursday (one-hourly session) and results so far are very satisfactory. Home Visitation of elderly people living alone continues, and the introduction of a Meals Service is being contemplated.

Chiropody Service

The servicing of providing foot care in the County is largely done by the Roxburghshire Red Cross Association. In Hawick the Red Cross work independently, while at Melrose and Jedburgh Red Cross personnel work in liaison with the Local Old People's Welfare Committees. Jedburgh Committee employs a qualified chiropodist for the cases requiring more than ordinary foot care.

The Kelso Old People's Welfare Committee employs a qualified chiropodist at the Bowmont Street Clinic as described above.

Clothing Centres

It is noteworthy to include a reference to the Clothing Depots provided and run by W.V.S. personnel at Jedburgh and Hawick. They are proving of great value in assisting old people and others who are in need of clothing.

Section 47—Removals to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and protection

One compulsory removal, an elderly lady living alone.

Section 58—Protection of Property of Persons admitted to Hospitals and Homes

Action taken in four instances.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead

No Part III burials, or casual dead.

Chronic Sick

There were a number of elderly people admitted to chronic sick hospitals through the representations of the Welfare Officers of Hawick and Kelso.

MENTAL HEALTH

(a) Section 27 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947

Measures taken for prevention of mental illness, care and after-care of the mentally ill and defective

Home Helps continue to be provided in households where there is a mentally ill person, generally at the request of doctors, nurses, children's officer, or the Visiting Psychiatric Social Worker. Dingleton Hospital, Melrose.

On questions of local health and welfare for discharged patients, the Psychiatric Social Worker, Dingleton Hospital, works closely with the Local Authority's Welfare Officers.

Three patients (1 male, 2 female) were admitted to Eventide Homes after a spell in hospital (Dingleton).

The Borders Association for Mental Health was inactive in 1956.

(b) Lunacy (Scotland) Acts, 1857-1866

	M.	F.	Total
Admitted to Dingleton Hospital on certification	7	3	10
Admitted to Dingleton Hospital as a voluntary patient ...	—	1	1
	7	4	11

The number of persons admitted to mental hospitals tends to fall as the voluntary method of admission is favoured whenever possible. The figures above, of course, refer only to those cases notified to the officers of the Local Authority for action.

(c) Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Acts, 1913-40

1. Arrangements for ascertaining and supervising Mental Defectives

Local Authority Medical Officers of Health, the Police, General Practitioners, the Education Authority, the Probation Officer and the Children's Officer continue to report any defectives under this heading:

	Total
Placed to Institutional care (being over 16 years or outwith the responsibility of the Education Committee)	2M. 2F. 4

A number of patients were examined by the Visiting Specialist and placed on the waiting list for Gogarburn.

Supervision is being exercised by Welfare Officers over a number of defectives in the area, apart from boarded-out patients (below).

2. Guardianship

	M.	F.	Total
Number of boarded out patients receiving allowances at 31/12/56 (including one male chargeable to Berwick County)	5	6	11

Additions during year—3 females.

Age Groups:

Over 21 years	4	3	7
Between 16-21 years	—	2	2
Under 16 years	1	1	2

3. Arrangements for carrying out the Statutory duty to provide occupation and training for defectives in the area (occupation centres, industrial centres for adults, home teaching of individuals and groups)

No arrangements for occupational or industrial centres, etc. Cases notified to the Welfare Authority are generally assisted to find employment either through the machinery of the Ministry of Labour or by the individual efforts of the Local Authority Welfare Officers. There is no voluntary committee operating in the area for this work, but the setting up of a committee is being contemplated.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Provision of Part III Accommodation

	Other Local Authority Homes				Voluntary Homes				Roxburgh County Council								Grand Total			
									Deanfield				Grove House							
	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.
Residents at 31st December, 1955	1	2	—	3	8	17	—	25	6	7	—	13	12	—	—	12	27	26	—	53
Admissions to 31st December, 1956	1	1	—	2	1	16	—	17	5	8	—	13	7	—	—	7	14	25	—	39
Discharged during Year	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7	2	3	—	5	2	—	—	2	4	10	—	14
Number removed to Hospital	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	3	1	1	—	2	5	—	—	5	7	4	—	11
Number re-admitted during year	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	4	1	—	5
Number died	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Otherwise ceased	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Residents at 31st December, 1956	2	3	—	5	8	23	—	31	8	10	—	18	16	—	—	16	34	36	—	70

SCHOOL MEDICAL REPORT

Year Ending 31st July, 1956

Infectious Disease

Apart from a small epidemic of measles in the Autumn and Spring terms, and of mumps in the Summer term, the incidence of infectious disease was low.

Vaccination and Immunisation

It is pleasant to record that almost 89% of all children entering school for the first time had been immunised against diphtheria. 74% of all entrants had also been vaccinated against Smallpox.

Speech Therapy

During the year Berwickshire withdrew from the joint arrangements made between Roxburghshire, Berwickshire and Selkirkshire. Roxburghshire and Selkirkshire continued to employ two Speech Therapists and the report of the work done shows the need for the service in the County.

Mental Health

Last year a Special Class was begun in Kelso and this year a similar Class began in Hawick. These classes will undoubtedly help not only the children attending them but the schools from which they have been withdrawn. Other children in the County are suitable for such training, but in a rural area the site of the homes, transport and accommodation for such classes are difficult problems to overcome. There remains the group of children suitable only for an Occupational Centre. A great obstacle in the way of providing a centre for such a class is the wide area over which the prospective pupils' homes are scattered.

The service provided by the Educational Psychologists is now firmly established and is proving most helpful not only to the Education and Health Departments, but also to parents who, in many instances, have been unaware that their handling of their child has been a major factor causing the mental and educational upsets which cause the child to be examined.

During the session 1955-56 the Educational Psychologists examined 72 new cases, reviewed 105 cases, conducted 103 parent interviews and submitted 144 reports on cases.

Uncleanliness

The incidence of uncleanliness, head and body, remains very low. A few families are responsible for the majority of the cases and no amount of advice or help seems to make the parents realise their responsibilities. A disproportionate amount of time and travelling is spent in trying to cope with these cases. During the year 52 children were found to be suffering from a verminous condition of the head, i.e., 0.79% of the school population.

1. Number of children on roll for session	...	...	...	6515.7
2. Average attendance during year	...	...	...	5998.6
3. Percentage of attendance	...	...	...	91.5
4. Average School rolls:				

Senior Secondary Schools

Hawick High School	...	1022.8	Kelso High Secondary	...	333
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Junior Secondary Schools

Denholm	...	...	199.4	Newcastleton	...	171
Melrose Grammar	...	...	315.8	Newtown St Boswells	...	284
Jedburgh Grammar	...	...	720.5	Hawick Roman Catholic	...	133
Morebattle	...	...	193.4			

Primary Schools							
rum	...	...	...	88.1	Makerstoun	...	14.3
nslie	...	...	...	23.9	Minto	...	12.7
smill	...	...	...	20.9	Newmill	...	26.6
lling	...	...	...	33.0	Oxnam	...	24.5
ford	...	...	...	22.7	Pleasants	...	23.8
am	...	...	...	24.4	Riccarton	...	9.6
n Douglas	...	...	...	22.0	Roberton	...	21.4
wick Burnfoot	...	...	...	431.4	Roxburgh	...	13.6
wick Drumlanrig	...	...	...	291.5	St Boswells	...	149.4
wick St Mary's	...	...	...	95.0	Sandystones	...	22.2
wick Trinity	...	...	...	270.2	Saughtree	...	5.5
wick Wilton	...	...	...	328.6	Smailholm	...	21.1
ton	...	...	...	24.2	Southdean	...	16.4
bkirk	...	...	...	64.9	Sprouston	...	35.4
so High Primary	...	...	...	579.3	Stichill	...	21.0
rkton	...	...	...	11.1	Teviothead	...	22.2
npitlaw	...	...	...	17.8	Towford	...	16.1
liesleaf	...	...	...	85.0	Yetholm	...	83.2
wick St Cuthbert's (part year)	...	...	...	78.0	Jedburgh St John's	...	81.1

Table I

Total number of children examined at schools:

	Systematic Examinations	Other Systematic Examinations
Entrants—No previous routine inspection ...	677	142
Second Age Group—Born 1946 ...	703	20
Third Age Group—Born 1942 ...	505	3
Fourth Age Group—Born 1939 ...	43	—
Total	1928	165

	Other Examinations
Pupils born in 1948 (Vision and Hearing only) ...	562
Special cases ...	46
Re-inspections ...	112

Number of individual children inspected at Systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanness and dental diseases):

Entrants	...	229
Second Age Group	...	176
Third Age Group	...	95
Fourth Age Group	...	10
1948—Vision and Hearing	...	37

TABLE II—STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		All ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	2093	418	401	370	353	278	230	19	24	1085	1008
1. CLOTHING—											
Unsatisfactory ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
2. FOOTGEAR—											
Unsatisfactory ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
3. UNCLEANLINESS—											
(a) Head—Dirty ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nits or Vermin ...	—	2	3	—	2	—	2	—	—	2	7
(b) Body—Dirty ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Vermineous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. SKIN—											
(a) Head—Ringworm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases ...	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	3	3
(b) Body—Ringworm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scabies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases ...	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
5. NUTRITIONAL STATE—											
Slightly defective ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Bad ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
6. MOUTH and TEETH—											
Unhealthy ...	—	19	5	7	8	9	6	—	—	35	19

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		All ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
7. NASO-PHARYNX—	2093	418	401	370	353	278	230	19	24	1085	1008
(a) Nose—Req. Observ.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Req. Operation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other conditions	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
(b) Throat—Tonsils Req. Obs.	—	14	11	3	5	—	—	—	—	17	16
Tonsils Req. Oper.	—	19	8	5	3	—	—	—	—	24	11
(c) Glands—Glands Req. Obs.	—	21	12	7	5	—	—	—	—	28	17
Glands Req. Oper.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
8. EYES—											
(a) External Disease—											
Blepharitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Conjunctivitis	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strabismus	—	8	7	5	8	4	4	—	2	17	21
Other Diseases	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(b) Visual Acuity—											
Without glasses—											
Good working vision	—	—	—	345	323	249	202	19	18	613	543
Fair working vision	—	—	—	20	26	20	21	—	4	40	51
Bad working vision	—	—	—	5	4	9	7	—	2	14	13
With glasses—											
Good working vision	—	—	—	10	10	14	20	—	5	24	35
Fair working vision	—	—	—	3	3	1	1	—	—	4	4
Bad working vision	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
For refraction	—	2	2	3	9	8	8	—	1	13	20

STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS—Continued

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		All ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
9. EARS—	2093	418	401	370	353	278	230	19	24	1085	1008
(a) Diseases—Otorrhoea	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Other Diseases	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
(b) Hearing—Grade I	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Grade IIA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade IIB	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade III	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. SPEECH—	—	11	3	4	—	2	—	—	—	17	3
Defective Articulation	—	2	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	6	1
Stammering	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. MENTAL and NERVOUS CONDITIONS—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Backward	—	3	2	3	2	3	—	—	—	9	4
Dull	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Mentally Defective (Educable)	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	4	—
Mentally Defective (Ineducable)	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Highly Nervous or Unstable	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Difficult in Behaviour	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. CIRCULATORY SYSTEM—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3
(a) Organic Heart Disease—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congenital	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acquired	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Functional Conditions .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS—Continued

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		All ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
13. LUNGS—	2093	418	401	370	353	278	230	19	24	1085	1008
Chronic Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suspected Tuberculosis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other Diseases	—	4	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	5	5
14. DEFORMITIES—											
Congenital	—	4	2	1	1	5	—	—	1	10	4
Acquired (Infantile Paralysis)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acquired (Probable Rickets)	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	2
Acquired (Other causes)	—	53	33	17	34	22	18	1	3	93	88
15. INFECTIOUS DISEASE	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
16. OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS	—	9	10	10	8	4	3	—	—	23	21

Pupils born in 1948—		No. Examined		No. Defective	
(Vision and Hearing only)—Vision		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Hearing		296	266	23	14
		296	266	2	1

TABLE III—SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		Total	
	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%
I. Children free from defects	578	70.58	509	70.40	372	73.23	32	74.42	1491	71.24
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from:—										
(a) Defective Vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses	1	0.12	17	2.35	22	4.33	4	9.30	44	2.10
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment	20	2.44	12	1.66	14	2.76	—	—	46	2.20
(c) Both (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	1	0.19	—	—	1	0.05
Total	21	2.56	29	4.01	37	7.28	4	9.30	91	4.35
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks ..	31	3.78	18	2.49	12	2.36	—	—	61	2.91
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in II or III.										
Distinguishing cases:—										
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect full correction) is considered possible	172	21.00	142	19.64	73	14.37	6	13.95	393	18.78
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function	17	2.08	25	3.46	14	2.76	1	2.33	57	2.72
Total	189	23.08	167	23.10	87	17.13	7	16.28	450	21.50
Total number of children examined	819	100.00	723	100.00	508	100.00	43	100.00	3093	100.00

TABLE IV

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE
IN THE AREA

Disability	At ordinary schools	At special schools or classes	At no school or Institution	Total
BLIND	—	—	—	—
PARTIALLY SIGHTED—				
a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition	—	—	—	—
b) Other conditions of the eye, e.g., cataract, ulceration, etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school	2	—	—	2
DEAF—				
Grade I	7	—	—	7
Grade IIA	1	—	—	1
Grade IIB	—	—	—	—
Grade III	—	—	—	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH—				
a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures	—	—	—	—
b) Stammering requiring special educational measures	—	—	—	—
MENTALLY DEFECTIVE—				
(Children between 5 and 16 years)				
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70)	24	12	3	39
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50)	1	3	9	13
EPILEPSY—				
(a) Mild and occasional	11	3	—	14
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school)	—	—	—	—
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE—				
(Children between 5 and 16 years)				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)	—	—	—	—
(b) General Orthopaedic conditions	869	—	—	869
(c) Organic heart disease	20	—	—	20
(d) Other causes of ill-health	5	—	—	5
MULTIPLE DEFECTS—				
I Mentally defective (ineducable) and physically defective (general orthopaedic conditions)	—	—	1	1
II Mentally defective (ineducable) and epilepsy (mild)	—	1	—	1
III Mentally defective (ineducable) and epilepsy (severe)	—	—	1	1

TABLE IV—Continued

Disability	At ordinary schools	At special schools or classes	At no school or institution	Total
IV Mentally defective (ineducable) and blind	—	—	—	—
V Mentally defective (educable) and physically defective ("General orthopaedic conditions")	—	—	—	—
VI Mentally defective (educable) and epilepsy (mild)	—	1	—	1
VII Mentally defective (educable) and epilepsy (severe)	—	—	—	—
VIII Mentally defective (educable) and physically defective ("other causes of ill health")	—	—	—	—
IX Mentally defective (educable) and deaf	—	—	—	—
X Mentally defective (educable) and blind	—	—	—	—
XI Other multiple defects	10	3	3	16

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

	Number Examined	Average		
		Age Yrs. Mths.	Height (Ins.)	Weight (lbs.)
ENTRANTS—				
Boys	365	5	43·87	43·56
Girls	312	5	43·65	43·11
SECOND AGE GROUP—				
Boys	357	9	51·76	65·62
Girls	346	9	51·63	65·39
THIRD AGE GROUP—				
Boys	275	13	62·23	98·59
Girls	230	13	61·21	100·83
FOURTH AGE GROUP—				
Boys	19	16	66·79	135·50
Girls	24	16	63·75	124·94

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Minor Ailments

1. Cuts, bruises, sprains, minor injuries	...	...	...	...	...	47
2. Diseases of the ear	...	...	...	...	...	8
3. Diseases of the eye	...	...	...	...	...	2
4. Diseases of the skin:						
Ringworm (scalp)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ringworm (body)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	34
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	35
5. Treatment for verminous infestation	...	...	...	...	...	—
6. Burns and Scalds	...	...	...	...	...	—
7. U.V.R. Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	8
8. Others	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total						135

No. of School Children visited during the year by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	258
Total No. of visits paid	...	...	...	...	...	689

Defective Vision and Squint

By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, Dr J. Burns-Brown acts Ophthalmologist for the School Medical Service in the County.

Children referred for examination at the request of the School Medical Officers of the General practitioners.

Clinics held at:

Springbank Clinic, Hawick.
Waterside Clinic, Jedburgh.
St Dunstan's Clinic, Melrose.
Bowmont Street Clinic, Kelso.

Cases requiring operative treatment are referred to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Thirty-eight sessions have been held during the School year; the details are follows:

Appointments made	...	...	...	363
Appointments kept	...	...	...	293
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	86
Present Glasses suitable	...	...	...	114
Glasses requiring alteration	...	...	...	2
Glasses no benefit	...	...	...	21
No visual defect	...	...	...	2
No treatment required	...	...	...	47

Pre-School children treated under scheme:

Appointments made	...	...	...	11
Appointments kept	...	...	...	10
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	1
Present glasses suitable	...	...	...	1
Return at later date	...	...	...	4
No action	...	...	...	4

Defects found:

	School	Pre-school
Strabismus	3	—
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	42	—
Myopic Astigmatism	66	—
Mixed Astigmatism	25	—
Myopia	1	—
Amblyopia	20	—
Nystagmus	3	—
Word Blindness	1	—
Congenital Cataract	3	—
	164	—

(C) Conditions of Ear, Nose and Throat

School children who are found to be suffering from any condition affecting the Ear, Nose or Throat are referred to the E.N.T. specialist for examination, when such is considered necessary, by the School Medical Officers or at the special request of general practitioners.

Clinics are conducted by Specialists supplied by the South-Eastern Regional Hospital Board, Scotland. This Department receives regular lists of all children seen and operated on by visiting Specialists.

Number of School Children examined	...	...	...	...	160
Number of School Children operated on	...	...	...	...	217

Pre-school Children treated under Scheme:

Number of Pre-school children examined	...	...	...	...	29
Number of Pre-school children operated on	...	...	...	...	57

(D) Orthopaedic Treatment

The scheme provides for the treatment of school children suffering from orthopaedic defects who have been recommended for treatment by the school medical officers or general practitioners.

By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, Mr R. I. Stirling, F.R.C.S., Edinburgh, acts as consultant, and clinics are held monthly at various centres.

School children on active treatment register at 1/8/55	874
School children on active treatment register at 31/7/56	869

Distribution of cases:

Date	Hawick	Kelso	Jedburgh	Melrose	Newcastleton
1/8/55	316	244	160	123	31
31/7/56	289	269	143	141	27

Record of Consultant Clinics:

Centre	No. of Clinics held	No. of children examined
Hawick	7	210
Jedburgh	6	109
Kelso	6	180
Melrose	2	39
Morebattle	2	16
Newcastleton	1	12
Newtown	3	44
Total	27	610

Record of Attendances at Treatment Clinics:

	Month		Clinic	Home
1955	August	...	49	98
	September	...	841	70
	October	...	930	39
	November	...	891	62
	December	...	702	74
1956	January	...	856	48
	February	...	627	88
	March	...	822	77
	April	...	424	98
	May	...	964	82
	June	...	738	75
	July	...	256	125

Institutional Treatment:

In residence, 1/8/55	...	...	...	1
Admissions	...	...	...	19
Discharges	...	...	...	14
In residence, 31/7/56	...	...	...	6
Patient Days	...	...	...	2156

Classification of Hospital Cases:

at tendon—left tibialis Posterior	1	Right sided hemiplegia	...	1
at foot deformity	1	Right sided torticollis	...	1
allux valgus	1	Semi-membranosus bursæ	...	2
p deformities	4	Spastic Paralysis	...	1
rock knees	2	Tight Tendo-achilles	...	1
ild scoliosis	1	Toe deformities	...	2
liomyelitis	2			

SPEECH DEFECTS

Total number continued from 1955-56:

	Stammering	Other Disorders
School	50	313
Pre-school	1	—
Total	51	313

Cases referred:

School	30	189
Pre-school	—	1
Total	30	190

Total cases treated:

School	56	180
Pre-school	1	1
Total	57	181

Attendances:

School	2240	5400
Pre-school	24	18
Total	2264	5418

Cases discharged:

School	40	63
Pre-school	1	—
Total	41	63

Total cases to be continued to 1956/57:

School	40	439
Pre-school	—	1
Total	40	440

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

HAWICK, ETC., AREA

TABLE V

(1) Inspected by Dental Officer:

Age	(a) Routine Inspections	(b) Specials and Emergencies	Total
5	237	69	306
6	285	48	333
7	274	60	334
8	267	28	295
9	296	37	333
10	260	4	264
11	214	6	220
12	276	6	282
13	183	—	183
14	179	2	181
15	144	2	146
15+	88	2	90
	2703	267	2970

	Routine Inspections	Specials and Emergencies
(2) (a) Number found to require treatment	1630	261
(b) Number accepting treatment	599	261
(c) Number signing card for private treatment	705	—
(d) Number known to be treated privately	723	—
(3) Number treated during year	758	261
(4) Number of attendances for treatment	2257	298
(5) Number of completed cases	548	149
(6) Fillings—(a) Permanent Teeth	1043	40
(b) Temporary Teeth	245	34
(7) Extractions—(a) Permanent Teeth	145	24
(b) Temporary Teeth	644	120
(8) Number of general anæsthetics	16	4
(9) Other operations—(a) Permanent Teeth	296	9
(b) Temporary Teeth	722	22

(10) Orthodontic cases:

(a) Visits	6
(b) Treatment	15
(c) X-ray	—

(11) Half-days:

(a) Inspection	36
(b) Treatment	363

REMARKS

Hawick, etc., Area—Mr C. M. Urquhart, Dental Officer

Number of schools inspected	18
Number of schools receiving treatment	18
Number of schools in which treatment was completed	13

Percentage of children examined by School Dentist and found to require treatment and who subsequently received treatment from School Dentist 53·8%

KELSO, MELROSE, JEDBURGH, ETC., AREA

Inspected by Dental Officer:

Age						(a) Routine Inspections	(b) Specials and Emergencies	Total
5	...	...	...	...	...	115	51	166
6	...	...	...	...	...	68	37	105
7	...	...	...	...	...	25	38	63
8	...	...	...	...	...	36	30	66
9	...	...	...	...	...	36	41	77
10	...	...	...	...	...	16	26	42
11	...	...	...	...	...	27	17	44
12	...	...	...	...	...	—	17	17
13	...	...	...	...	...	—	17	17
14	...	...	...	...	...	—	14	14
15	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
15+	...	...	...	...	...	—	10	10
						323	404	727
							Routine Inspections	Specials and Emergencies
(a) Number found to require treatment						...	269	301
(b) Number accepting treatment						...	201	301
(c) Number signing card for private treatment						...	65	—
(d) Number known to be treated privately						...	21	—
(e) Number treated during year						...	1794	301
(f) Number of attendances for treatment						...	2943	301
(g) Number of completed cases						...	665	238
(h) Fillings—(a) Permanent Teeth						...	971	37
(b) Temporary Teeth						...	345	71
(i) Extractions—(a) Permanent Teeth						...	135	23
(b) Temporary Teeth						...	1160	237
(j) Number of general anæsthetics						...	—	—
(k) Other operations—(a) Permanent Teeth						...	1073	150
(b) Temporary Teeth						...	823	137
10) Orthodontic cases:								
(a) Visits						...	1075	
(b) Treatment						...	1599	
(c) X-rays						...	196	
11) Half-days:								
(a) Inspection						...	7	
(b) Treatment						...	426	

REMARKS

Kelso, Melrose, Jedburgh, etc., Area—Mrs C. E. Grieve, Dental Officer

During the session 1955-56 routine dental inspections were reduced to a minimum. The Mobile Dental Clinic for the joint use of Roxburghshire and Selkirkshire Country schools will be available next session and this necessitates a re-organization of the programme of work. Treatment was therefore carried out mainly on the cases in course of treatment in all schools in the area from the previous school session.

The Orthodontic Service continued to give very satisfactory results. At the end of the school session the Orthodontic Consultant made a survey of all the records and casts of cases which had been treated and a selection was made of the cases which best illustrated the various types of abnormality and the treatment carried out in each case. We hope that, in the course of the next few months, we shall have these cases assembled and classified for display. The casts show

the condition of the mouth before and after treatment. I find they are of very great assistance in demonstrating to parents whose children require orthodontic treatment and obtaining their co-operation in the case of habit deformities.

The Hawick Area Officer intimated his resignation at the end of the school session.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE

The following information has been received from the County Architect:

Ancrum: New heating chamber built, and new heating boiler installed. (Old heating boiler removed from Main Classroom.) Hot water service provided at wash-hand basins.

Blainstie: Re-decoration of Main Classroom, Cloakroom and Passage.

Eckford: Playground re-surfaced with tarmac.

Hawick Burnfoot: Wash-hand basins renewed in Annexe. Electric light installed in Annexe and Service line supplied. Two new windows fitted in Annexe New W.C. and hot water cylinder fitted in Annexe.

Hawick High: Internal re-decoration of dining centre kitchen.

Wilton: Two drinking fountains renewed.

Hobkirk: New "President" 6' 0" long coal-fired cooker installed in School Meals Kitchen.

Heiton: Plate warming cabinet provided in village hall for School Meals.

Jedburgh Grammar: Two drinking fountains provided. Hot water system provided at wash-hand basins in Boys' and Girls' cloakrooms in main building together with two additional basins.

Jedburgh Infant: One drinking fountain provided.

Kelso High: Adaption of Room 12 to Science Room. Rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4 re-decorated. Playground re-surfaced with tarmac. Rayburn cooker and two new gas cookers fitted in Domestic Science Room (Room 18). Five moveable screens provided for Room 18. Cupboard supplied and fitted near dining room door. Cupboard fitted under stair. Additional ventilation provided in Boys' Dressing Room.

Kelso Infant: Existing cloakroom improved, and hot water provided at wash-hand basin.

Melrose: Alterations to Classrooms 8 and 9 to form Men's Staff Room and lavatory and larger room. Playground re-surfaced with tarmac. Two drinking fountains provided. New electric range installed in School Meals Kitchen.

Morebattle: New electric range installed in School Meals Kitchen.

Newcastleton: Two electric cookers installed.

Newmill: Electric light installed, and service line led forward.

Newtown St Boswells: Rayburn cooker installed in Domestic Science Room. Also electric wash-boiler and cooker. Domestic Science Room and Hall re-decorated.

Roberton: Electric light installed in school and school meals building.

Roxburgh: Drainage system connected to main sewer.

Sandystones: Provision of School Meals facilities.

Saughtree: Service line led forward to school.

Smailholm: Tarmac drive laid from roadway to playground.

Sprouston: School Meals Kitchen and Larder re-decorated. Walls of Boys' and Girls' lavatories limewashed.

COUNTY SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr A. I. Fraser, County Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows:—

Although another twelve months have elapsed the long-awaited Food Hygiene Regulations have not yet come into operation.

A number of important pieces of legislation were added to the Statute Book, however, those of particular interest to sanitarians including The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, The Clean Air Act and The Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act.

In the farming sphere it is perhaps of interest to note that, at the beginning of the year, the Department of Agriculture for Scotland provided free testing facilities to the County with a view to declaring the area, in 1958, to be an Eradication Area under their "Eradication of Bovine Tuberculosis" plan.

As stated in the March issue of the "News Bulletin" of the Scottish Milk Marketing Board, a publication to which I referred in last year's report, the purpose of the free tests is to encourage farmers to clean up their herds and to qualify for entry to the Attested Herds Scheme and for bonus payments provided under that scheme. If a farmer takes no steps to clean up his herd, or starts so late that his herd is neither supervised nor attested by the time that the Orders declaring the eradication area comes into operation, he will have lost his chance of qualifying for bonus payments. When the Eradication Area is declared, all herds not in the voluntary scheme will be tested compulsorily and all reactors will be slaughtered with payment of compensation.

Similar facilities have been extended to farmers in the neighbouring County of Berwick, whilst Selkirkshire was declared an attested area last year.

So far as the dairy industry is concerned, the declaration of an area to be an attested area ensures that all the milk retailed therein, whether from registered or exempted producers, comes from tuberculin tested cows.

Work in connection with the Ale Water Scheme continued and by the end of the year a number of contracts had either been completed or were well advanced.

In connection with my reference, in last year's report, to the inconvenience caused to and the cost incurred by householders in making good damage caused by the failure of internal water pipes, etc., to stand up to the severe frosts sometimes experienced, it is perhaps of interest to note that the British Standards Institute have issued a most helpful and instructive leaflet on the subject entitled "Protect your pipes from Frost." It can be obtained for a nominal sum and should be in the possession of all property owners and/or tenants.

In the Spring of the year, in anticipation of the Food Hygiene Regulations and in an attempt to stimulate the interest of the public generally, and of food handlers particularly, in the storage and preparation of food, Clean Food Exhibitions, each lasting five days, were held in the Burghs of Hawick, Kelso, Edinburgh and Melrose. Further details of these activities are included in the body of the report.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Provision of New Disposal Works:

H.M. Government's policy of drastically reducing capital expenditure has largely prevented the modernisation of existing sewage purification works and the provision of new works and, so long as these restrictions remain in force, it is difficult to see how the managers and staffs of out-of-date or generally overloaded works, which are scheduled for modernisation or replacement, can be expected to produce satisfactory effluents and, undoubtedly, serious nuisance conditions are bound to continue in a number of instances.

In the County, thanks to the far-sighted policy of its administrators who, during the 10 years up to 1955, provided modern facilities for the treatment and final

disposal of sewage and waste water in 10 out of a total of 23 Special Drainage Districts, the position is not so serious. It will be noted, however, from the undernoted summary, that the Department of Health, in pursuance of Government policy, intimated, towards the end of the year, that a starting date would not be granted for the drainage scheme for Morebattle, details of which were included in my last annual report.

Special Drainage Districts

Summary of Proposals for Improving Existing or Providing new Drainage and Sewage Disposal Facilities

Special Drainage District	Proposals	Estimated Cost	Position at 31st December, 1950
ANCRUM	To delay the provision of new sewage purification works as detailed in last year's report pending the submission by the Council's Consultant Engineers, of proposals for improving the condition of the existing system of sewers.	Not yet known	Consultant Engineer's report awaited.
BLAINSLIE	1,390 yds. of 6 ins. sewer and outfall drain; new septic tank.		6 ins. sewers laid 90% Septic tanks completed 30%.
BONCHESTER BRIDGE	750 yds. of 6 ins. sewer. Sewage outfall works comprising pump well, screening chamber, horizontal flow sedimentation tanks, rotary filters, humus tanks and sludge beds. 155 yards subsidiary 6 ins. sewer.		Sewage Purification Works completed and in operation. 6 in subsidiary sewer laid 50%.
BOWDEN	To divert the existing sewers to a point from which they can be connected to the Newtown St. Boswells system, thereby dispensing with both the present sewage disposal works.	£20,400	Scheme approved by the County Council subject to adequate grant under the Rural Water Supply and Sewerage Act 1944.
DENHOLM ...	To proceed with a number of improvement works to the existing system of sewers, including the formation of an overflow manhole and the provision of additional inspection manholes, and to ask the Department of Health to reconsider the provision of new sewage purification works for grant purposes.	£12,000	Council's Consultant Engineers instructed to proceed with improvements to sewers at an estimated cost of £900.

Local Drainage District	Proposals	Estimated Cost	Position at 31st December, 1956
TONSIDE	To dispense with new sewage purification works as detailed in last year's report in favour of a combined scheme with the Burgh of Melrose.	Not yet known.	Report from Consultant Engineers awaited
TON	To provide new sewage purification works comprising pump well, screening chamber, horizontal flow sedimentation tanks, rotary filters, humus tanks and sludge beds.	Not yet known	Joint proposals by County Engineer and County Sanitary Inspector to be considered by appropriate Sub-Committee of the County Council.
LIESLEAF	Proposals to be submitted in collaboration with the County Road Surveyor and Engineer, for improving the present system.	Not yet known.	Report from County Engineer awaited.
REBATTLE	375 yds. of 6 ins. sewer. Sewage outfall works comprising pump well, screening chamber, horizontal flow sedimentation tanks, rotary filters, humus tanks and sludge beds.	£8,750	The Department of Health intimated that a starting date for the construction of the new sewer and new sewage purification works could not be granted in view of current restrictions on Local Government expenditure.
WINTOWN ST. OSWELLS	Sewage outfall works comprising storm water tanks, screening chambers, sedimentation tanks, rotary filters, humus tanks, sludge cold digestion tanks.	£16,000	Starting date from Department of Health awaited.
WIMCASTLETON	To carry out such improvements as may be found to be necessary to the present system of sewers and either to completely modernise the present sewage purification works or provide new works.	Not yet known	Comprehensive report awaited.
WIMSTEAD	182 yds. 6 ins. outfall sewer. New sewage outfall works comprising screening chamber, sedimentation tanks, high level sludge tank and sludge beds.	£3,358	New works completed and operating satisfactorily.

Special Drainage District	Proposals	Estimated Cost	Position at 31st December, 1954
SMAILHOLM	180 yds. 6 ins. sewer.	£250	Work to be undertaken by County Engineer.
ST. BOSWELLS	To replace all defective brickwork at the sewage purification works.	£100	Work not commenced.
TOWN YETHOLM	To replace all defective brickwork and provide additional sludge drying facilities at the sewage purification works.	£250	Work not commenced.
WILTON DEAN	855 yds. of 9 ins. C.I. and F.C. sewer to connect with the Burgh of Hawick sewerage system.	£6,057 10/-	Work completed.

Maintenance of Present Works:

It is a well-known fact that no sewage purification works, however simple and well designed, can be expected to function efficiently for any length of time without skilled and efficient attention and, in this respect, the County Council is, in my opinion, fortunate in that the drainage and sewage works attendants employed by them are, by and large, intelligent men who take the keenest interest in their work.

At St Boswells, Town Yetholm and Newcastleton daily maintenance is carried out as part of the duties of the full-time officers appointed to these districts, while part-time attendants are responsible for undertaking similar duties at the new works at Bonchester Bridge and Newstead. Two other men are employed, full time, in maintaining the treatment plants at:

Ancrum	Midlem
Bowden	Morebattle
Denholm	Newstead
Ednam	Roxburgh
Heiton	Smailholm
Lilliesleaf	Sprouston
Maxton	Stiehill

In addition, their duties comprise the emptying, at regular intervals, of the 400-odd street gullies in these districts and they are also required to assist the attendants already mentioned with the removal of sludge from the sludge beds at their works. Finally, when their other duties permit, they are available, by arrangement, to desludge septic tanks serving private properties. This service, on the few occasions on which the attendants were able to give it, was obviously appreciated, so much so that I have suggested that it should be extended to include the regular maintenance of septic tanks serving the larger types of dwellings and this suggestion was being considered by the appropriate Committee of the County Council at the end of the year. I have in mind that the extended service could best be operated by augmenting the present equipment, details of which were given in my 1954 report, with a combined cesspit/gully emptying vehicle of 800 gallons capacity and operated, preferably, by a diesel engine.

In the event of the extended scheme being approved, however, full details will be included in next year's report.

es provided at Existing Works:

Implementation of the policy referred to in my last report, water has been to wash-hand basins in the pump-houses at the works at St Boswells, Town and Bonchester, where a W.C. has also been installed, and these facilities have been greatly appreciated and are regularly used.

An incentive to the attendants to maintain the curtilages of the works in the best possible condition and to cut down on the time which they have necessarily spend on weeding, etc., it has been agreed to tarmacadamise the clinker roadways and footpaths within the perimeter fences of the works at Bonchester Bridge, Newstead and Town Yetholm and eventually, it is hoped, these improvements will be effected at as many of the remaining works as possible.

the Duties in connection with Drainage and Sewage Disposal:

Throughout the year regular visits were paid to all the sewage purification works in the County either by the County Sanitary Inspector or a member of his staff and whilst this necessarily took up some time, I feel the visits were well justified while not only because they kept the various attendants "on their toes" but also because it showed them that a definite interest was being taken in their work. For this reason, too, the odd visits by Department of Health officials and the Chairman of the Health Committee were especially welcomed.

A number of choked sewers were reported and all were dealt with timeously so that only a minimum inconvenience was caused to house tenants and/or members of the public.

The inflow of a considerable volume of sub-soil water into a system of private drains, which in turn are connected to one of the Council's main sewers, caused considerable concern. Suggestions have been put forward to the responsible authority, however, as to how this problem can be dealt with and it is to be hoped that we will be able to report next year that these have been implemented.

Conveniences:

The public conveniences at Denholm, Newcastleton and St Boswells continued to be well maintained and were free from nuisance. I regret to have to report, however, that several acts of vandalism were committed at the latter conveniences, mostly by children.

At the end of the year the appropriate Sub-Committee of the Council had considered and rejected, for one reason or another, several suggested sites in Newtown and St Boswells for a public convenience. The matter, however, is being continued.

* (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Act, 1951:

The River Inspectors appointed by the Solway and Tweed River Purification Boards have again placed their services at the disposal of my Department and I take every opportunity of placing on record my indebtedness to them.

The undernoted sewage effluent samples were taken:

Local Drainage District	Type of Purification Works	Analytical Report on Sample of Effluent
Edinburgh	Vertical flow sedimentation tanks.	A good quality sedimentation tank effluent.
Edinburgh	Horizontal flow sedimentation tanks.	A poor quality effluent. The plant is apparently achieving little purification. (The River Board Inspector concerned has suggested an alternative routine for operating these tanks and it is to be hoped that future sewage effluent reports will be satisfactory.)
Edinburgh	Septic tank.	Effluent is as good as can be expected from septic tank treatment.
St Boswells	Full treatment.	A clear well-nitrified effluent.
Denholm, Town	Full treatment.	A clear well-nitrified effluent.
Denholm, Kirk	Horizontal flow sedimentation tanks.	A good quality sedimentation tank effluent.

CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

Special Scavenging Districts:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 147 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1947, the villages of Kirkton and Lanton were, with effect from 16th May, 1956, formed into Special Scavenging Districts. As a result, organised scavenging facilities are now available in:

(1)	Ancrum	Lilliesleaf
	Bowden	Maxton
	Crailing	Midlem
	Denholm	Newstead
	Eckford	Newtown St Boswells
	Ednam	Roxburgh
	Eildon	Smailholm
	Gattonside	Sprouston
	Heiton	Stichill
	Lanton	St Boswells

which, collectively, form the Roxburghshire Special Scavenging District, and

(2)	at Bonchester Bridge
	Kirkton
	Morebattle
	Newcastleton
	Southdean
	Town Yetholm
	Kirk Yetholm
	Wilton Dean

each of which is formed into a separate Special Scavenging District.

Frequency of Collection of Household Refuse:

Household refuse in Lanton is uplifted twice weekly and removed in a refrigerated freighter of approved design, whilst in Kirkton the service is provided on a day per week only.

Details of the collections in the remaining villages were included in my report for 1954.

Types of Refuse Vehicles used:

As previously stated, freighters of approved design are in operation in Roxburghshire Special Scavenging District and in Wilton Dean. It is obviously impracticable, however, to ask the various part-time contractors who are responsible for undertaking the removal of refuse in the remaining districts to provide vehicles of this type and, so long as present arrangements continue, there appears to be no alternative to accepting open lorries in Morebattle, Town and Kirk Yetholm, Bonchester Bridge and Kirkton, a horse-drawn cart in Newcastleton and a tractor and trailer in Southdean.

Arrangements are being made with the contractor in the three first-named villages to provide his lorry with a suitable type of cover, and, on the whole, despite the absence of suitable vehicles, I think it fair to say that the services have been undertaken satisfactorily and without giving rise to any serious nuisance condition.

Refuse Depots:

With the co-operation of Hawick Town Council, refuse from Bonchester Bridge and Kirkton is deposited at the Council's refuse depot at a fixed price per load. This arrangement is most satisfactory in so far as it has enabled the use of the former dump at Bonchester Bridge to be terminated and has reduced the number of refuse depots in the landward area to six, one of which is used jointly with Kelso Town Council on a "per capita" basis.

The main refuse depot is situated at Newtown St Boswells and there, I am glad to be able to report, the somewhat unsatisfactory maintenance arrangements

which I commented last year have been overcome by the appointment of a Districts Attendant for Newtown, whose duties include the regular maintenance of the depot. In my opinion, this attendant is doing a very good job of and, in so far as it is now possible to control the depositing of refuse, I am confident that the "life" of the depot will be very considerably prolonged.

Baling of waste paper is also included in the duties of the attendant above mentioned, and, whilst this work must necessarily be undertaken on a small scale with the present baling equipment available, it seems to me very much more to obtain even a small annual revenue from this source than to burn the paper as was done formerly.

Bins:

Litter bins which were erected some three years ago at convenient points in the larger of the villages continued to be used in the majority of cases.

Nevertheless, however, that the whole litter problem has still to be solved and, with the present apparent apathy on the part of the citizen of today, it seems to me that the greatest hope for improvement in the future lies in the education of the citizen of tomorrow.

The County in Scotland has already adopted litter byelaws and my own Council is considering taking a similar step. In my opinion, however, the Byelaws will serve their purpose only if they are rigorously and effectively enforced. I doubt whether this can be done in every instance.

WATER SUPPLIES

Public:

The various public water supplies were sampled on 98 occasions during the year. Copies of the relative results, details of which are appended hereunder, were passed to the County Engineer who, as stated in last year's report, is responsible for all constructional and maintenance works:

Samples Taken	Results						
	Chemical			Bacteriological			
ical	Bacteriological	Good	Fair	Bad	Good	Fair	Bad
	49	49	—	—	46	1	2 (a)

Note: (a) Remedial measures were put in hand on receipt of these unsatisfactory reports and subsequent reports were good.

In the course of the year a link with the past was partially severed with the removal of all but three public water supply fountains in the villages of Town and Kirk Yetholm. The three fountains "reprieved" for the present will be maintained as and when they cease to function satisfactorily.

Private:

As always, a considerable amount of time was devoted to investigating private water supplies, either in connection with proposed housing development or in order that water could be made available by the Department of Agriculture under their Farming Scheme and, of 18 and 29 samples submitted for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination respectively, all of the former and 22 of the latter were reported upon favourably.

One bacteriological sample, of river water, was taken with a view to using the water to supplement an existing supply for milk cooling and for the washing of milking utensils and equipment, but the report was so unsatisfactory that treatment by filtration followed by chlorination was suggested. The producer, however, estimated that he was not prepared to instal the necessary equipment and the water was dropped.

To be suitable for general domestic purposes water should contain few organisms of any kind. In this connection, however, I suggest the following report from the Joint Ministry of Health and Ministry of Housing and Local

Government Memorandum "The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supply should be noted:

"Upland surface waters may have very high plate counts even in absence of rainfall and in the apparent absence of excretal pollution. count often increases considerably during the summer months, presumably due to the access of dust and of organic matter from decaying vegetation to the seasonal increase in temperature which together favour bacterial multiplication."

Schools:

Unfortunately, because of the number of other duties which had to be undertaken, the schools survey referred to in last year's report had to be suspended.

It will, however, be resumed as soon as possible and details will be included in a later report.

Tents, Vans and Sheds:

Two camping sites, which, over the past few years, have proved to be extremely popular, especially with visitors from across the Border, were visited at frequent intervals during the summer and, on each occasion, were found to be satisfactory.

The revision of the Council's Byclaws for tents, vans and sheds was under consideration at the end of the year.

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897—Section 32:

Offensive Trades:

The undernoted offensive trades, within the meaning of the above Act, established in the landward area:

- (1) Tanner.
- (2) Slaughterer of Cattle.

The premises in which these trades are conducted were visited at regular intervals and, at no time, was there any evidence of a nuisance condition.

Infectious Diseases:

Two cases of Scarlet Fever, as compared with six last year, were investigated and reports submitted to the County Medical Officer.

Disinfection of premises and/or bedding was not carried out in either case.

Common Lodging Houses:

There are no common lodging houses in the landward area.

Burial Grounds:

The burial grounds continued to be well conducted and were free from nuisance.

HOUSING

General:

Because of the Council's excellent post-war building programme, which is nearing completion, the housing shortage is probably not so acute in this County as it is in many other local authority areas. Nonetheless, the demand for new houses, especially in the larger villages like Newtown St Boswells and St Boswells, remains high and the "Waiting Lists" contain the names of a number of people who, although presently living outwith the County, are obviously anxious to obtain given tenancies of County Council houses in Roxburghshire.

Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954:

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950—Parts I and II:

Closing and Demolition Orders:

In accordance with the County Council's proposals under Section 1 of the Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954, which were contained in the

ent submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland in August of last year, as detailed below, was taken under Section 9 of the Housing (Scotland) 1950:

Houses in respect of which reports were submitted:

- Whiteburn Cottage, Southdean.
- Hillshaugh Cottage, Hobkirk.
- Houses (2) at Manor Inn, Lanton.
- Houses (4), Lanton.
- Lilac Cottage, Lilliesleaf.
- House at West End, Lilliesleaf.
- Grafton Cottage, Town Yetholm.
- House, Main Street, Kirk Yetholm.
- "Wynnstae," Kirk Yetholm.
- Hobsburn Cottage, Bonchester Bridge.
- "Roxburgh View," Midlem.

Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were served:

- Hobsburn Cottage, Bonchester Bridge.
- Hillshaugh Cottage, Hobkirk.

Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were served:
Nil.

Houses in respect of which formal undertakings "Not to Re-let" were accepted:

- Grafton Cottage, Town Yetholm.
- Houses (4), Lanton.
- "Wynnstae," Kirk Yetholm.

Houses in respect of which Owners have not yet submitted proposals:

- Houses (2) at Manor Inn, Lanton.
- "Roxburgh View," Midlem.
- House at West End, Lilliesleaf.
- Lilac Cottage, Lilliesleaf.
- Whiteburn Cottage, Southdean.
- House, Main Street, Kirk Yetholm.

happens occasionally in this area, and probably also in other areas, that the rs of houses which have been the subject of official action in terms of on 9 of the 1950 Act subsequently dispose of them without disclosing this with the result that the new owners, who, quite often, are elderly persons with limited capital, are saddled with liabilities of which they were not originally aware and which they have no way of meeting.

seems to me that this unsatisfactory state of affairs could be obviated by ing statutory provision for the recording, in the Register of Sasines, of any al action taken by local authorities under Part II of the Act. This, I may is done whenever a house is improved with the aid of a grant under Part VII e Act.

esing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954—Part II:

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair which, under certain umstances, may be issued by local authorities under Section 18 of the above and by the end of the year, the proprietors of the dwelling, the tenant of ch, last year, was granted a Certificate of Disrepair, had not submitted their osals for modernising their property.

ousing (Scotland) Act, 1950—Part VII:

The following is a summary of applications received and improvement grants d in 1956:

Applications		Site Visits, meetings with Architects etc.	Houses Involved					Estimated Cost of Works	Total Amount Paid in Grant
Lodged	Approved		Apartments						
			2	3	4	4	5+		
50	50	131	1	42	44	7	2	£85,443 3 1	£29,949 2

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952—Section 3:

Provision of New Houses for the Agricultural Population:

Two applications, as compared with five last year, for grants in terms of County Council's Scheme of Assistance for the provision of houses for agricultural workers were approved subject to the approval of the Secretary of State and H.M. Treasury.

These involved the erection of one 3-apartment and one 4-apartment houses

Building Byelaws:

113 applications for permission to undertake building works in terms of Council's Building Byelaws were approved.

The proprietors of the house referred to in my last report which was altered without reference to the County Council were given a limited period of time to amend their scheme of improvements to conform to the Byelaws.

Private Enterprise Building:

Traditional Houses:

The erection of four 3-apartment, eight 4-apartment and three 5-apartment traditional houses for private occupation was approved and it is of interest to record that one of the latter dwellings, with garage, was built for and occupied by an Assistant Estate Factor in a matter of 10 weeks and with only the minimum amount of overtime worked, a feat, I suggest, which reflects the greatest credit on all concerned.

Non-Traditional Houses:

In addition to the 15 traditional houses referred to above, permission was granted for the erection of a 3-apartment non-traditional house.

Drain Tests:

In all, 108 tests, involving some 5,250 yards of 4" and 6" S. & F. pipes were satisfactorily completed.

Certificates of Occupancy:

Eighteen applications were received for Certificates of Occupation for new dwellings, and following detailed surveys of each subject 10 certificates were issued. In the remaining cases the certificates were withheld pending the applicants making good a number of deviations to and omissions from the originally approved plans. It is anticipated that all modifications will be satisfactorily effected early in 1957 and, thereafter, the relative certificates will be granted.

Local Authority Houses:

Houses Erected or in course of Erection:

Once again I am indebted to the County Architect for the following information:

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES

Site	Houses completed during the year 1956					Houses under construction at 31st December, 1956					Totals
	Permanent Traditional	Permanent Non-Traditional	Agricultural Workers'	Aged Persons	Conversions	Permanent Traditional	Permanent Non-Traditional	Agricultural Workers'	Aged Persons	Conversions	
Bowden	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Denholm	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	8
Heiton	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Newtown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
St. Boswells	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	10	—	16
Town Yetholm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Totals	2	—	—	8	1	6	—	—	25	1	43

NURSES' HOUSES

Site	Completed	Under Construction	Totals
Newcastleton	1	—	1

FOOD

Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956:

General:

By an Order made by the Secretary of State for Scotland and cited the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956 (Appointed Day) Order, 1956, the above Act which received the Royal Assent in March, came into operation on 1st August less Sections 13 and 14 which, respectively, deal with regulations as to food hygiene and the registration of manufacturers and traders. The new Act both consolidates and amends the existing law relating to the public health aspects of the food supply and, in so doing, repeals the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1928, the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (as they apply to Scotland) and other statutory provisions relating to food, of which the principal are Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and the Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943. The Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Acts and the Slaughterhouse Act are unaffected, except that penalties under the former are equated with those in the new Act.

A section of the new Act provides, for the first time, for the notification of cases of food poisoning by medical practitioners and another contains important provisions controlling the use of cream substitutes.

Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956:

Administration and Enforcement:

It was decided at a meeting of the Joint Committee for Medical and Sanitary Services for the Counties of Roxburgh and Selkirk held in November, that the enforcement of the provisions of the above Act and any Regulations made thereunder should be undertaken, both in the landward areas and in the small burghs, by the joint sanitary staff, with the addition of another Inspector, who would also be available, if required, to carry out the duties of Detention Officer at a slaughterhouse in Selkirkshire and, by the end of the year, the position had been advertised.

In the event of my staff being increased by the appointment of the Inspector above referred to, it is my intention that he should be employed, principally and immediately, on surveying, in detail, all food premises in the joint administrative area in order that I might be in a position to ascertain the extent, if any, to which they may fall short of the anticipated requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. With this information in my possession I should be in a position, as soon as these Regulations become law, to advise the persons concerned of any improvements required to raise the standard of their premises or, if necessary, to have them registered.

Food Hygiene:

Inspection of Premises:

As many food premises as possible were visited as a matter of routine and the more serious malpractices brought to the notice of the person or persons best able to have them rectified.

Pending the Food Hygiene Regulations coming into operation, however, and providing, at the least, "a code of practice," little attempt was made to induce the owners of premises to carry out major structural alterations.

I was glad, in the course of the year, to be given the opportunity of scrutinising the plans prepared by a local firm of architects on behalf of the proprietors of one of the auction marts for the erection of a new restaurant and licensed premises. A number of minor modifications which I felt it would be expedient to incorporate were put in hand, and the premises, which were in operation before the end of the year, are of an excellent standard.

Clean Food Campaign:

The Clean Food Campaign referred to in the preface to this report had, as its basis, the display of the Department of Health's "Clean Food" exhibits, including:

- (a) 4 units contrasting conditions in a "good" and "bad" shop and in a "good" and "bad" kitchen;
- (b) 3 stands with photographs of good and bad hygienic practices;
- (c) a food stand with suitable placards;

I the Department was extremely fortunate in obtaining, through the good offices of the Burgh Surveyor, Hawick, the whole-hearted support and co-operation of the South-East Division of the Scottish Gas Board who, through their Area Managers, Mr Cowie and Mr Wood, not only afforded us, free of charge, the full use of the Division's showrooms in Hawick, Kelso, Jedburgh and Melrose, but also very kindly arranged for the packing and unpacking of the exhibits as well as their transportation from one centre to another.

As a final courtesy, the Board provided tea at the opening ceremonies which were performed by the Provosts of each Burgh, before invited audiences of members of the food trades and affiliated organisations.

I was delighted to have Mr Allan Ritchie, M.B.E., Food Hygiene Officer to the Department of Health for Scotland, as a member of the platform party at Hawick, and, indeed, throughout the series of exhibitions Mr Ritchie afforded the Department the very greatest support, for which I, personally, was more than grateful.

At each centre the exhibitions were open daily to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for a period of 5 days, a member of my staff being available each day from 9 a.m., when the Gas Board staff finished work, until 7 p.m. to answer questions and, generally, to conduct persons round the various exhibits, and bearing in mind that the holding of the exhibitions coincided with a spell of most inclement weather, I think it fair to say that they were reasonably well patronised, especially at Hawick.

If they did nothing else, the exhibitions undoubtedly stimulated the interest in food hygiene of a very large number of primary and secondary school children and, through the courtesy of the Director of Education and their respective headmasters, were afforded every facility to attend and subsequently entered a competition which took the form of answers to the following questions:

"You have just seen our 'Clean Food' Exhibition in which we have tried to show you how good shops and restaurants take special care to keep food clean and wholesome. Pretend you are a shopkeeper and see if you can find the answers to the following questions:

1. Seven families once became ill from food poisoning after eating a meal in a shop. Can you find three things which might have caused the food to become bad?
2. If you were a shop or restaurant keeper, mention three things you might do to make sure the food you were selling was clean.
3. Why should food be covered up until it is to be eaten?
4. Why should hot, clean water always be used for washing up plates, cups, dishes, etc.?
5. Which do you think is the most interesting picture or photograph in the exhibition?"

The great majority of the completed entry forms were of a high standard and was only with the greatest difficulty that it was decided to award book tokens to the undernoted pupils:

Age Group:

Under 12 years—Charles Murray, Class 1A, Hawick High School.

12-13 years—Rhonda L. Wilson, Class 1A, Kelso High School.

13-14 years—William O. Herd, Class 1B, Hawick High School.

14-15 years—John Temple, Class 11A, Hawick High School.

Margaret Killick, Class 11A, Hawick High School.

15-16 years—James B. Douglas, Class 11C, Kelso High School.

A proposal to include a show of technical films to pre-formed audiences with the support and co-operation of the Scottish Council for Health Education had to be cancelled because of the difficulty of obtaining a 16 m.m. sound projector. I am hoping, however, that it might be possible to give these shows at a future date.

UNSOUND FOOD

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897—Section 43:

The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956—Sections 8-11:

The undernoted articles of food were seized and disposed of as being unfit for human consumption:

Luncheon Meat	32 lbs.
Tinned Pears	6 lbs. 6 ozs.
Boneless Cooked Ham	12 lbs. 6 ozs.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928:

The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956:

The undernoted table gives details of all formal and informal samples procured, together with information as to the number found, on examination by the Public Analyst, to be non-genuine:

Articles Sampled	No. of Samples			No. of Non-Genuine Samples		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Sweet Milk	5	33	38	Nil	4	4
Mincee	7	44	51	Nil	4	4
Sausages, Beef	4	23	27	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sausages, Pork	Nil	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sausages, Sliced	Nil	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sausage Rolls	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sausage Meat	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ground Almonds	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ground Ginger	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Preserved Ginger	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Butter	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Margarine	Nil	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Meat Paste	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Meat Pie	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chicken and Ham (Minced)	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Potted Meat	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Luncheon Meat	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Fish Cakes	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Salmon Spread	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lemon Curd	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Damson Jam	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Raspberry Jam	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dried Peaches	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dried Apricots	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
White Pepper	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Mustard	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Malt Vinegar	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sauces, Various	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Baking Soda	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Saccharin Tablets	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Turkish Delight	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Fruit Lozenges	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Boiled Sweets	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Assorted Creams	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pan Drops	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chewing Gum	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bubbly Gum	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carried forward	16	159	175	Nil	8	8

Articles Sampled	No. of Samples			No. of Non-Genuine Samples		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Brought forward	16	159	175	Nil	8	8
and Cream	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Condensed Milk	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
... Flour	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
.....	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
...table Fat	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...t Jellies	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
...e Cherries	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...onade	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
...on Foam Crystals	Nil	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
...age Juice	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...ry Powder	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...tine	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...arbonate of Soda	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...ble Cream	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...ze and Chicory Essence	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...e Mixture	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
.....	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
...sky	17	Nil	17	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals	33	182	215	Nil	8	8

Formal samples were taken following receipt of the adverse reports on the formal samples of sweet milk and the 4 informal samples of mince, and all were found to be genuine.

Food Poisoning:

No cases of food poisoning came to my notice during the year.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations (Scotland), 1925-53:

Of the 11 formal and 74 informal samples of mince, sausages and sausage rolls procured during the year, all of the former and 70 of the latter were reported as "Genuine."

Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956:

Selling of Food and Drugs:

Section 6 of the above Act prohibits the use of misleading labels and advertisements for food and drugs, while Section 7 permits the Secretary of State to make regulations as to the labelling and advertising of food.

Special attention was paid to labels, etc., when food sampling and none were found to be misleading or inaccurate.

In this connection it is perhaps of interest to note that, under the new Act, the use of the term "cream" in relation to cream substitutes is prohibited unless the products, or products containing them, are labelled "Imitation Cream" or "reconstituted" cream.

This, however, does not apply to the use of the word "cream" in such products as salad cream, cream crackers or ice cream.

Food Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948:

Registrations:

Action taken in terms of Section 4 of the above Regulations during the 12 months ended 31st December, is summarised as follows:

					Premises	Vehicles
Number granted	...	...	...	...	1	1
Number cancelled	...	...	...	...	—	—
Number discontinued for any other reason	...	...	...	...	—	—
Number in force at 31/12/56	...	...	...	...	23 (a)	9

Note: (a) includes 6 premises registered for manufacture, storage and sale.

Inspection of Premises and Vehicles:

As much time as possible continued to be devoted to inspections and visits to all registered premises and vehicles and, whilst as I have already stated in a previous report, a number of the manufacturing premises are not entirely satisfactory, mainly on account of restricted floor areas, I think it fair to say that without exception, they were being maintained in as clean a condition as possible.

Generally speaking, the visits my staff were able to make were welcomed and the vendors gave the impression that they were willing to co-operate in producing ice cream of the highest quality.

Sampling:

Bacteriological Examination:

There is, of course, no legal bacterial standard for ice cream, an omission which, I suggest, ought now to be made good.

The recommended standard of 100,000 viable bacteria per c.c., with B. coli absent in 1/100th c.c., is, I contend, too low and this contention is supported by the fact that, of six samples of ice cream submitted for bacteriological examination, four were reported on as follows:

No. of Viable Bacteria per c.c. at 37°C.	B. Coli present in 0.01 c.c.
3,100	(— — —)
35,000	(+ — —)
200	(— — —)
20,000	(+ + +)

The remaining two samples yielded the undernoted results:

265,000	(+ + +)
390,000	(+ + +)

Chemical Analysis:

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953:

In order to conform to the requirements of the above Order ice cream should be found, on analysis, to contain not less than 5% fat, 10% sugar and 7½% milk solids other than fat and these standards obtained in each of the 7 samples taken during the year, the reports being summarised as follows:

Analyst's Report	Result
Fat 6.6%	Genuine
Fat 8.8%	Genuine
Fat 5.0%	Genuine
Fat 12.3%	Genuine
Fat 5.6%	Genuine
Fat 13.4%	Genuine
Fat 7.8%	Genuine
Average Fat Content	8.5%
Average Fat Content of 9 samples taken in 1955	6.82%

MILK AND DAIRIES

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914:

Action taken during the year in terms of the above Act may be summarised as follows:

1. Total number of Registered Producers at 31/12/55	...	...	...	50
2. Certificates of Registration cancelled or otherwise discontinued	...	...	...	5
3. Certificates of Registration transferred	...	...	...	2 (a)
4. Certificates of Registration granted	...	...	...	4
5. Total number of Registered Producers at 31/12/56	...	...	...	49

Note: (a) These transfers involve existing premises.

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1954:

Section 13 of the above Order requires that milk cans should be effectively sealed or locked by the producer before delivery to a carrier and regular visits of inspection were made to the creameries and distributors' premises in the County to ensure that these provisions were being complied with.

Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951:

Four licences, the same number as in 1955, were issued to producers in the area authorising them to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in respect of milk produced from herds accommodated on their premises.

The issue of these new licences was, however, offset by the fact that three producers gave up their licences for one reason or another. In addition, one producer's licence was suspended.

The number and types of licences held at 31/12/56, together with action taken in terms of the Order during the year, are detailed in the undernoted table:

1. Number of Registered Producers	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
(i.e.) Designated and Non-Designated.							
2. Number of new licences granted:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
3. Number of licences suspended:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 (a)
4. Number of licences revoked:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
5. Number of licences discontinued for other reasons:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
6. Number of licences in force at 31/12/56:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Total							46
7. Number of Pasteurisers' Licences in force at 31/12/56	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
8. Number of Dealers' Licences in force at 31/12/56:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 (b)
(iii) Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
(iv) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
9. Dealers' Supplementary Licences in force at 31/12/56:							
(i) Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(iii) Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

10. Percentage of Registered Producers holding special designation licences 93.9(c)

Notes: (a) On two occasions, firstly for a period of 2 months and secondly from 13/10/56 to 26/11/56.

(b) This figure includes 6 Producer/Retailers.

(c) This compares favourably with the 1955 percentage of 92%.

Inspection of Premises:

(i) Designated:

The 46 designated premises were the subject of regular visits and, on each occasion, it was fairly obvious that every attempt was being made to comply with the general conditions of the Milk (Special Designations) Order in terms of which the licences were granted.

(ii) Non-Designated:

Although the three non-designated producers' premises were also visited on several occasions by my staff and once by the members of the Landward Burgh and Welfare Services Sub-Committee, I regret to have to say that, by the end of the year, none had qualified to be upgraded.

It would give me the greatest pleasure, however, to be able to record, in next year's report, that the dairy farms in Roxburghshire are 100% designated.

(iii) Pasteurising Depots:

On the average, some 1,400 gallons of milk, supplied by 29 producers, were pasteurised daily in G.E.M. plants at the two pasteurising depots in the County. Each depot was visited monthly and, on every occasion, all components of the plant were found to be clean and gave the impression of having been regularly and adequately cleansed.

At both depots, however, the G.E.M. bottle washing machines appeared to be in need of descaling and, in one instance, the thermo-recorder was out of action and remained out of action for some considerable time.

(iv) Milk Shops:

With the installation of mechanical bottle filling and capping equipment at Reid's Dairy in Jedburgh, the facilities for bottling and capping milk at all the milk shops in the County may be said to be satisfactory.

Only two shops, however, have adequate cold stores and additional facilities of this nature could, with benefit, be installed at the larger of the remaining shops.

"Milk-in-Schools" Scheme:

All 48 schools in the County were supplied with either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested milk under the above scheme by a number of distributors and the position both in regard to the distribution and the quality of the milk supplied was generally satisfactory.

The scheme, on the whole, functioned well and no complaints were received from any of the interested parties. It seems to me a matter for regret, however, that not all the children can be persuaded to drink the milk.

Scottish Milk Testing Scheme:

The above scheme is in operation at both the pasteurising depots referred to earlier in this report and at a creamery in a neighbouring County which receives milk from three producers in Roxburghshire.

In the course of the year two notifications were received from the bacteriological at the latter depot to the effect that milk consigned to it had failed to pass the daily platform test and each was followed up to a satisfactory conclusion.

Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949:

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (Scotland) Order, 1955:

No administrative difficulties were experienced in operating the provisions of the above Act and no complaints on the part of consumers were received.

Sampling:

Chemical Analysis:

Appendix is a summary of the results of the 38 samples of milk taken and tested for chemical analysis:

Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Number "Genuine"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Number "Non-Genuine"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Average Fat %	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.65
Average N.S.F. %	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.84

The public in general wants a milk of high fat content. What it fails to realize is that the solids-not-fat, (i.e.) protein, lactose, salts and calcium, are, if not more, important. The maintenance of both high fat and solids-not-fat, therefore (legal minimum standards 3.00% and 8.50% respectively), is essential.

Fat Content	No. of Samples
→4.00%	3
3.75 - 4.00%	1
3.50 - 3.75%	12
3.00 - 3.50%	18
←3.00%	4

Bacteriological Examination—Designated Milk from Producers' Premises:

The undernoted table gives details of samples of milk taken at producers' premises and submitted for bacteriological examination:

Designation	No. of Samples		% Failing	Average number taken per farm
	Taken	Failing		
Certified	21	4	19.0 (a)	9.5
Tuberculin Tested	319	39 (b)	12.2 (a)	6.8

Notes: (a) % of failures during 1955 was 43.7% and 21.0% for "Certified" and "Tuberculin Tested" milk respectively.

(b) Only 1 producer had 3 consecutive failures and in this case the licence was suspended twice.

(c) Of the 280 samples of "T.T." milk which conformed to the prescribed tests it is, I think, most interesting to note that 253, or 90.4%, had counts of less than 30,000 per m.l. and only 4, or 1.4%, had counts between 100,000 and 200,000 (the legal standard is 200,000 per m.l.). This would appear to indicate, as I have already stated in a previous report, that the time has come when consideration should be given to revising the standard with a view to making it more stringent.

General remarks on samples failing to pass Statutory Tests:

Twenty-one out of a total of 46 producers holding "Certified" or "Tuberculin Tested" licences had no failures during the year. This compares favourably with last year's figure of 18 and reflects great credit on the licence holders concerned.

Of the remaining 25 designated producers, 13 and 5 had only 1 or 2 failures respectively.

That it is only a small number of producers who fail to maintain the standard may be seen from the fact that of the 43 Certified and T.T. samples which failed to conform to the prescribed standards 17, or almost 40%, were obtained from 4

premises, which it goes without saying will be very closely supervised during coming year.

On the other hand, it gives me great pleasure to record that the undern farms have had no failures during the past three years:

Berryhill
Glendearg
Lanton Mill
Woodhouse

whilst the following had had one failure only:

Castlewood
Crailing Hall
Eildon Bank
Goldielands
Longrow
Ormiston
Sprouston
Templehall.

To these producers and to their dairymen and/or women, as I have already stated, the greatest possible credit is due.

Months during which samples failed to comply with Statutory Tests:

The following tables which, respectively, give the months during which samples failed to pass the prescribed tests and the percentages of failures for each of the four quarters of the year may, I suggest, prove to be of interest and, in an attempt to improve on the figures shown, I have instructed my staff, when investigating an unsatisfactory sample, to pay particular attention to the techniques adopted in washing the cows' udders prior to milking, for cleansing and sterilising the various utensils and pieces of equipment, and for reducing fat absorption by teat liners and milk tubes as well as to the condition of the equipment in use, including the suction piping and the sanitary trap which quite often receive only the scantiest of attention.

Table A

Months in which samples Failed											
J.	F.	M.	A.	M.	J.	J.	A.	S.	O.	N.	D.
—	—	3	3	3	5	9	3	5	5	3	4

Table B

Percentages Failing											
January-March ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.9
April-June ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.6
July-September ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39.5
October-December ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.9

(iii) Pasteurised Milk:

Forty-six samples were taken, of which 3, or 6.5%, failed to comply with the statutory requirements. This compares most favourably with 1955 when, of 50 samples taken, 8, or 16%, failed.

(iv) Schools Milk:

Of the 48 samples, 10 more than last year, taken from the schools participating in the "Milk-in-Schools" Scheme, 3, or 6.2%, compared with 6, or 12.5%, in 1955, failed to conform to the statutory requirements on one or both counts.

(v) Biological Testing for Myco Tuberculosis:

No non-designated milk was retailed in the County without prior treatment and emphasis was therefore placed on the sampling of those supplies which were not subject to heat treatment before sale. Of 14 samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 2 samples of "Certified" milk submitted for guinea-pig inoculation, all proved negative.

Non-Designated Milk:

First there is no legal bacterial standard for ordinary or non-designated milk, samples were taken and submitted to the same tests as are applied to "Tubercle-tested" milk and, with 4 exceptions, all conformed to these tests.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1954:

Registered Premises:

In spite of representations by the County Council, the Secretary of State was not prepared to approve the registration of a private slaughterhouse in terms of section 7 of the above Act and with the revocation of one of the two registered premises mentioned in last year's report, only one private slaughterhouse remained on the register at 31st December, 1956.

Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Act, 1928-54:

Slaughterhouses Act, 1954:

Three applications for slaughterers' licences were approved.

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulations, 1955:

The owner of the private slaughterhouse referred to above was asked to carry out a number of structural alterations to his premises in order to comply with the above Regulations, but refused to do so and after further considering the matter the appropriate Sub-Committee of the County Council recommended that no further action be taken.

Inspection of Public Abattoirs and Private Slaughterhouses:

Conditions at the private slaughterhouse for the slaughter of animals may be said to be satisfactory, bearing in mind the small weekly kill of some 2 cattle, 5 sheep, 4 sheep and, occasionally, a pig, and meat inspection facilities are also available there.

As I have already stated, in last year's report, that a number of structural improvements were effected at Kelso slaughterhouse in 1955 and, during the year under review, the standard of the premises was further enhanced by the installation of a hot water system and by the re-design of the hanging booths. The hanging and evisceration arrangements in the export section of the slaughterhouse are not conducive to speedy and effective meat inspection, however, and it is to be hoped that Kelso Town Council, who are to be congratulated on the works they have already carried out, will bear these points in mind when forming their future improvement programme.

In the earlier part of the year I arranged for a number of carcasses to be inspected (a) immediately after the beast had been slaughtered, (b) on route to the retailers' premises, and (c) in the retailers' premises and, on the whole, the latest reports showed that there was only slight bacterial contamination.

Meat Inspection:

My staff are responsible for carrying out the duties of Detention Officers at the public abattoir and at the private slaughterhouse in the landward area. They report to the Slaughterhouse Superintendent/Detention Officer at Hawick abattoir when he is on holiday or otherwise absent from duty and it is with satisfaction that I record that, during 1956, a 100% meat inspection service was provided. This service which was carried out only at considerable inconvenience to the Detention Officers, one of whom was employed outwith normal working hours something like 25 Saturday and Sunday afternoons, so far without any additional remuneration, is, in my opinion, of inestimable value to the general public, many of whom, I feel sure, took it for granted that all the meat purchased by them was free from disease.

At Kelso, the County Council have provided a mobile office for the use of the Detention Officer, equipped with electric lighting and heating and an electric water heater as well as with the necessary office equipment. The facilities, in my opinion, are excellent and could, I suggest, be repeated with great advantage by other local authorities with the same accommodation problem.

The following tables give details of the different classes of animals slaughtered at Kelso and St Boswells together with the weights of condemned meat and offal

Kelso:

Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs of condemned Meat and Offal)
	Slaughtered	Condemned Wholly	Condemned Partially	
Cattle	1,500	25	10	12,544
Sheep	22,248	289	13	14,324
Pigs	939	9	13	1,593
Calves	126	6	—	297

St Boswells:

Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs of condemned Meat and Offal)
	Slaughtered	Condemned Wholly	Condemned Partially	
Cattle	107	—	—	118
Sheep	233	—	—	—

It is of interest to note that, on analysis, it was found that:

- 1 in 10 bullocks was diseased.
- 1 in 5 cows " "
- 1 in 18 calves " "
- 1 in 35 sheep " "
- 1 in 13 pigs " "

The diseases encountered included Tuberculosis, Septicæmia, Actinomyces and Cysticercus Bovis.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948:

The following information was contained in the Annual Report by the Medical Officer of Health on the administration of the above Acts for 1956:

PART I

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors):

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	3	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	46	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	49	49	—	—

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
of cleanliness, S.1	—	—	—	—	—
powding, S.2	1	—	—	—	—
onable temperature, ...	—	—	—	—	—
uate ventilation, S.4	—	—	—	—	—
ive drainage of	—	—	—	—	—
s, S.6	—	—	—	—	—
ry Conveniences, S.7	2	1	—	—	—
) Insufficient	3	2	—	—	—
) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	—	—	—
) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
offences against the (not including offences relating to Out-k)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	4	—	—	—

ons 110 and 111—Outworkers:

x visits were paid to places where homework is carried on and, in every case, tions were found to be suitable.

on 34—Means of Escape from Fire:

ith one exception, all factories in which more than 20 persons are employed a possession of certificates in terms of Section 34 of the Act and it is hoped he one outstanding certificate will be issued early in the new year.

this connection I should like to place on record my appreciation of the extended to me by the Firemaster of the South-Eastern Fire Brigade in ining premises, making recommendations and in drafting the appropriate ates.

ention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:

he following report was submitted to the Department of Agriculture for and:

I. Staff employed in carrying on Local Authority functions under the Act:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| (a) Administrative | Nil |
| (b) Survey | Nil |
| (c) Operational | One |

I. Measures taken for the Discovery, Prevention and Control of Rats and Mice:

Periodical survey of premises is undertaken and special inspections made on request or as a result of reports received as to infestations.

II. Measures taken regarding properties specially liable to infestation:

Special attention is given to refuse depots and other premises which are known to attract rats.

V. Action (if any) taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951:

Nil.

V. General ... Nil.

VI.

The undernoted duties were carried out by the Council's rodent staff in te of the above Act:

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority properties	Dwelling Houses	Business or Industrial Premises	Agri-cultural properties	To
Number of properties inspected by the L.A. during 1956 as a result of notification or otherwise	22	28	9	2	6
Number of above properties found to be infested by rats or mice	22	28	9	1	60
Number of above infested properties cleared by the L.A.	22	28	9	1	60

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897—Section 16:

Nuisances:

Among the more novel of the usual miscellany of nuisances dealt with was infestation of a cottage or, more correctly, of the roof space of a cottage, by bats. The lady of the house had heard squeaking noises which she took to be emanating from mice for some time, but it was not until her sister came to holiday with her that the presence of bats was established. One evening, however, the good lady counted 97 of the creatures entering and leaving a hole in the wall of the cottage just under the eaves and decided it was time to call in my department, a member of which successfully dealt with the complaint by igniting a number of Garreth's Maxine Smoke Generators in the roof space. The pungent smoke released drove out those bats which did not succumb through the hole in the masonry referred to above and, finally, this was cemented up, thus rendering the premises proof against vermin.

Other nuisance conditions which were investigated and finally abated included:

1. Dampness in a house caused by leakage from a fractured water pipe.
2. Broken waste pipes and rainwater conductors.
3. Smell from a private water supply. (In this case the storage reservoir was found to contain the dead bodies of several rats. These were removed, the tank was rendered verminproof and finally it was washed out with a strong chlorine solution.)
4. Infestation of silver fish in a house.
5. Offensive smell from a piggery.
6. Accumulation of manure.
7. Pollution of a watercourse by a bullock carcase.
8. Choked drains.
9. Choked septic tank.

Finally, in terms of Section 191 of The Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, the owner of a wall which was noted to have partially collapsed and constituted a danger to passersby was asked to take steps to have it secured or repaired. By the end of the year, however, he had not done so.

Clean Air Act, 1956:

Clean Air Act, 1956 (Appointed Day) (Scotland) Order, 1956:

The latter Order certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, which received Royal Assent on 5th July, were brought into operation on the last day of the year. These included provisions relating to smoke from furnaces, smoke control areas, the extension of the Alkali, etc., Works Regulation (Scotland) Act, 1951, to the emission of smoke, grit and dust from premises controlled or to be controlled under the Act, colliery spoilbanks and the constitution of the Clean Air Areas.

Under the Act local authorities are given power to declare "smoke control areas" subject to the confirmation by the Department of Health and once a "smoke control area" has been declared it is an offence to emit smoke from chimneys within its boundaries.

It is most unlikely, however, that a "smoke control area" is likely to be declared in the landward area of Roxburghshire, at least in the foreseeable future.

It is possibly a matter of regret, finally, that no power has yet been given to control the emission of smoke from railway engines.

Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) (Scotland) Regulations, 1956:

Section 11 of the 1956 Act makes it an offence to emit smoke from any building in a Smoke Control Area unless it can be shown that the emission of smoke is not caused by the use of a fuel other than an authorised fuel and, in this connection, the above Regulations specify that the undernoted fuels shall be deemed authorised fuels:

- Anthracite, including semi-anthracite.
- Briquetted fuels carbonised in the process of manufacture.
- Coke.
- Electricity.
- Gas.
- Low temperature carbonisation fuels.
- Low volatile steam coals.

One wonders, however, whether, in the event of a number of smoke control areas being formed at the same time, there will be sufficient quantities of these fuels available to consumers in the areas.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956:

As stated in the opening paragraph of this report, the above Act came into operation in the course of the year and the sanitary inspectors employed under the Joint Medical and Sanitary Services Committee were formally appointed to be Sanitary Officers.

The Act is concerned, primarily, with the provision, maintenance and cleanliness of sanitary conveniences and washing facilities on every "agricultural unit". This is interpreted as being "land which is occupied as a unit for agricultural purposes" and, whilst other duties have so far prevented my staff carrying out inspections, the administrative arrangements as set up by the Act appear to be peculiar in that it appears that local authorities have the duty of enforcing the provisions relating to the provision, cleansing and maintenance of sanitary conveniences, whereas the duty of securing washing facilities is imposed on the Department of Agriculture. A certain amount of duplication appears, therefore, to be unavoidable.

Public Health Act, 1950:

The amount of time which my staff was able to devote to implementing the various sections of the above Act was again limited.

A number of visitations were made to premises, however, in order to ascertain whether the terms of Section 38, which specifies that washing and W.C. facilities must be provided unless exemption certificates are issued, were being complied with and, in one instance, an owner was called upon to instal these facilities.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926:

The Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Regulations, 1955, which came into operation on 1st January, 1956, consolidate, with amendments, previous regulations made under the 1926 Act. The principal changes involve certain alterations to the limits within which mis-statements of quality and content are not actionable, of the manner of sampling and of the methods of analysis of samples of fertiliser.

The undernoted samples were all reported upon by the Public Analyst as genuine:

Fertilisers:

General Garden Fertiliser.

Sulphate of Potash (2).

Feeding Stuffs:

Balancer Meal (2).

New Battery Pellets.